

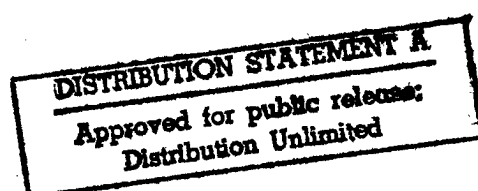


JPRS Report

Near East & South Asia

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REGIONAL

Iraqi Tanks for Beirut, Jordan

44230058 Tel Aviv *AL HAMISHMAR* in Hebrew
10 Jan 89 p 2

[Text] Elements within the South Lebanese Army are saying that the Lebanese forces, under the command of Samir Ja'ja', introduced into operational service dozens of tanks received from the Iraqi military as a gift.

The tanks are said to be T-54's and T-55's which Iraq transferred to Ja'ja's control at the end of the war with Iran. Dozens of tanks were moved from Iraq to Beirut by sea and were introduced into operational service, thus improving the power and deterrent capability of the the Lebanese Forces.

According to foreign publications, Iraq also intends to supply tanks to the Jordanian Army.

Iraqi Minister Announces Plans for Baghdad-Amman Rail Link

JN0803071589 Baghdad *Voice of the Masses* in Arabic
1800 GMT 7 Mar 89

[Text] It has been decided to build a railroad between Baghdad and Amman and to open a direct land route between Baghdad and Cairo. This was announced in a statement to INA by Muhammad Hamzah, minister of transport and communications. He said that Iraq will be connected to Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey by similar railroads, pointing out that Iraq has conducted studies, drawn up plans, and defined the courses of these railroads in its territories.

The minister also said that the plan to connect Iraq to Jordan was studied several years ago and that a joint meeting will be held by the competent authorities in both countries to draw up the final details. The minister added that these projects are aimed at promoting and developing transportation and communications among the Arab countries and at completing the factors for economic integration in all areas. He affirmed that Iraq will use its experience in railroads to serve these projects.

Joint Maritime Transport Project Reaches Final Stages

45040229b Paris *AL-MUSTAQBAL* in Arabic
18 Feb 89 p 35

[Text] A joint maritime transport project between Egypt, Jordan, and Iraq is currently in the final stages. The purpose of the project is to establish maritime and land transport between the three countries owning the project in particular, and between the Arab states in general, in order to facilitate trade and economic exchange between the Arab countries.

According to Egyptian Minister of Transport, Communication, and Maritime Transport Sulayman Mutawalli, the managing board of the proposed company will be under the control of the ministers of communication in the three founding countries. He said that there are other new projects that Egypt, Jordan, and Iraq will carry out, including telephone communications. In fact, 60 communication circuits have been established between Egypt and Jordan, which will be increased to 360 circuits to include Iraq and the Arab gulf countries.

With regard to the proposed digging of a tunnel between the town of Taba and the Jordanian port of Aqaba on the Red Sea, he said that this was merely an idea which is under consideration. He said: "1989 will witness similar achievements in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Morocco, and Tunisia with the aim of strengthening ties and developing them economically, commercially, and politically."

Water Shortage Threatens Region

45040229a Paris *AL-MUSTAQBAL* in Arabic
21 Jan 89 p 35

[Text] During the next 10 years the Middle East will witness a water crisis that could lead to tension in the area. A report by U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT says that launching water exploitation projects by countries sharing the waters of one or two rivers will spark disputes among them. As an example, the paper points to the project to develop the Anatolia plateau in Turkey, which calls for the establishment of 13 irrigation and hydroelectric projects at the sources of the Euphrates and Tigris rivers, including the vast Ataturk dam.

Another project in the region involves Syria and Jordan, which recently announced plans to build the vast al-Wahdah dam on the Yarmuk river, a tributary of Jordan river. Officials in the two states said that the project, which will cost \$400 million, will provide power for Syria and water for Jordan.

International agencies announced their readiness to support the project, but the financing has not yet been completed. Furthermore, economic prosperity in the Gulf states has led to the depletion of subterranean waters, the area's natural reservoir. This is in addition to 10 years of drought in east Africa, the area whose rainfall feeds the Nile.

The 4,000-mile-long Nile is the vital jugular vein for Egypt, as it provides 86 percent of the 158 billion gallons which Egypt's 52 million inhabitants consume. Last year, the Nile level dropped to its lowest since more than a century and the Egyptians were forced to draw water from the Nasir lake reservoir. The lake's level reached 492 feet before the floods in August eased the acuteness of the crisis. Had the level dropped another 7 feet, the High Dam generators would have come to a halt and more than half of Egypt's hydroelectric power would have been cut off.

The Egyptian Government, which is burdened with debts, has laid down an emergency plan to build gas-operated power stations. Even if funding is made available, these stations will not come into operation before the nineties. If the drought cycles continue, Egypt's industrial production will shrink. The same thing will happen to the agriculture that relies on irrigation. The situation in the future is going to be even more difficult when the Egyptian population will reach 70 million in the year 2,000 and 110 million 20 years later.

Despite the fact that sea water desalination is still expensive, especially for agriculture, research is now underway to reduce the cost. But there is a basic problem, namely the failure to exploit river waters that are wasted in the sea. For example, large quantities of water pouring down from the Turkish mountains are wasted in the sea every year.

A project under discussion now calls for laying water pipelines that would carry more than 6 million cubic meters of this wasted water daily to Saudi Arabia and the Gulf countries across Syria, Iraq, and Jordan. The plan calls for building pipelines with 13 foot diameter. The success of this project depends on the possibility of creating an atmosphere of cooperation between Turkey and the Arab countries and the availability of funds to implement it.

Unified Standards for Polystyrene Products in GCC Recommended

44000281 Doha AL-ARAB in Arabic 7 Dec 88 p 3

[Text] Executives of polystyrene producing plants in GCC [Gulf Cooperation Council] states stressed the importance of speeding up the issuance of uniform Gulf-wide standards to maintain product quality, to protect the interests of the producer and the consumer, and to facilitate and encourage commercial exchange between the GCC states.

At the end of their coordination meeting at the Gulf Organization for Industrial Consultation yesterday, the executives stressed the necessity of consulting with the General Secretariat of the GCC on the possibility of conducting a study on the establishment of a research and development center for the manufacture of plastic products and then submitting the study to the scientific and technological cooperation committee at the secretariat with the objective of continuing to improve product quality and to keep pace with new developments in the industry.

The conferees recommended that polystyrene product manufacturers should seek to obtain their supplies of this material from the Saudi company SABIC [expansion unknown] rather than from foreign markets. Likewise SABIC was to give priority to supplying the Gulf plants with this material.

They demanded that nationalist elements be encouraged to work in Gulf industry accompanied by training with

the objective of gradually replacing foreign workers. Similarly, they affirmed the importance of expediting unified protective systems, support policies, and incentives for achieving equality among Gulf producing plants in terms of competitiveness.

The conferees also discussed a number of problems that face these plants as well as the solutions that will help overcome them and bring about cooperation and coordination among the plants.

A large number of officials in the companies which manufacture these products in the Arab Gulf states together with representatives of the Gulf Cooperation Council and the Arabian Gulf Chambers of Commerce participated in the meeting.

It is worth mentioning that 27 polystyrene manufacturing plants exist in the GCC states.

Article Provides Naval Procurement and Development Information

44000374

[Editorial Report] The Arabic-language Paris magazine DIFA' WA SILAH published on pages 61-69 of its 33d edition an article entitled "The Sea 1988: Power, Effectiveness, Deterrence," which provides the following information on naval procurement and development activities in Saudi Arabia, Algeria, Bahrain, Oman, and Morocco during the year 1988.

SAUDI ARABIA

- Built two new naval bases in al-Jubayl and Yanbu' with British assistance.
- Ordered six Sandown class minesweepers weighing 400 tons fully loaded from Vosper Thornycroft of Great Britain.
- Ordered four 38-meter high-speed patrol boats from Blohm and Voss of West Germany.
- Put into service two 80-ton patrol boats (al-Jawbatil and Salwa) in January 1988 for use by the coast guard. The boats were built by Abeking and Rasmussen of West Germany.
- Ordered 20 ASD-12 high-speed patrol boats weighing 7.5 tons and capable of 50- knot speeds from CMN, France. According to an announcement, two were delivered in September 1988.

ALGERIA

- Received its second submarine in January 1988, a 2500-3000-ton Kilo-class submarine built in the Soviet Union.

BAHRAIN

- Received two 600-ton support ships in the beginning of February 1988—al-Manamah and al-Muharriq—ordered from Lurssen Werft of West Germany in 1985.

- Received the fourth and final 228-ton TN 45-class missile-equipped patrol ship, ordered from Lurssen Werft of West Germany in 1985.

OMAN

- Launched two missile-equipped patrol boats in March 1988—the Musandam and a 311-ton, 6-exhaust Province class B-13 patrol boat built by Vosper Thornycroft.
- Reviewed offers for the purchase of six new patrol boats and three minesweepers in February 1988.

MOROCCO

- Put into service in September 1988 the ship Kormoran, the first of six 450-ton patrol boats built in the Bazan shipyards in Cadiz, Spain.
- Deployed a 445-ton Osprey 5-type patrol boat built in the Danyard shipyard in Denmark.
- Deployed two 89.5-ton patrol boats—the al-Ra'id and the al-Rasil—built in the CMN shipyards in Cherbourg.
- Registered the completion of a fourth patrol boat—the al-Sayyid.

PALESTINIAN AFFAIRS

PLO Planning Open University of Air in Territories

44000402 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 6 Mar 89 p 2

[Text] The PLO is planning to inaugurate an open university of the air in the territories which will serve as an alternative to institutes of higher learning that have been closed by military order for more than a year. The idea of the university is in its final stages of clarification at the upper echelons of the organization.

The intention is to ask King Husayn for broadcast hours for instruction over Jordanian radio; PLO radio station transmissions are of a lower quality than Jordanian radio broadcasts.

The inauguration of the Palestinian university in the territories coincides with the process of gradually increased control by the PLO over wider sectors of social and political activity in the West Bank. This process was accelerated after King Husayn's announcement to cut ties in July 1988. The PLO moved quickly to fill the vacuum which was formed and to fix political realities in the area.

At the end of last month, the PLO deposited salaries of Palestinian functionaries living in the West Bank in the Arab Bank in Amman. They had received their salaries from the Jordanian Treasury before the cutting of ties by King Husayn. Fear was expressed in the military government that huge sums of money would pass to the territories in the coming days and this would cause a substantial upswing in the intifadah [uprising]. In the

words of senior military sources, it is not necessary to operate in legal ways to block the flow of funds by the PLO to the territories.

ALGERIA

FLN Official Comments on Foreign Policy Orientation

45190047 Algiers REVOLUTION AFRICAINE
in French 17 Feb 89 pp 10-12

[Interview with Boualem Dellouci, FLN Party Central Committee member, by Zahir Gadouche: "The FLN and International Relations: Mr Boualem Dellouci Deals Us a New Hand"; date and place not given]

[Text] Where international relations are concerned "ideology gives way to more concrete problems like the debt, security, etc." Mr Boualem Dellouci, anxious to clarify the situation, tried to explain to us how domestic reforms and changes in the international situation imply the need for reordering our relations with the outside world.

Let us bear in mind that, a member of the FLN [National Liberation Front] Party Central Committee since the Fourth Congress, Mr Dellouci, who was an ALN [National Liberation Army] officer, has held many responsible posts in the administration, the elected assemblies and the FLN Party.

[REVOLUTION AFRICAINE] Don't the reforms adopted by the Sixth Congress imply a reordering of the present Executive Secretariat in Charge of International Relations?

[Dellouci] The Central Committee Executive Secretariat has provided itself with operational organizations capable of taking charge of the new functions incumbent on it by virtue of the decisions of the Sixth Congress. The general arrangements that have been made are aimed at favoring a horizontal, flexible, and decompartmentalized reorganization in preference to an administrative-type hierarchical structure.

As concerns the Secretariat for International Relations, it was important to re-endow the FLN's foreign policy with overall consistency by seeing to it that it is under unified direction.

I think that the way the secretariat is organized ought to favor implementation of an integrated strategy that mobilizes the different sectors of our foreign policy in a coordinated fashion. Such an approach is based on the assumption that the different aspects and various categories of foreign policy are inseparable from and closely overlap one another. They are functionally linked and

will from now on be viewed as parts of one and the same complex conceived of as a whole. In this way of looking at things, the separation between the different functions involved in international relations appears only as a separation of purely methodological value which excludes any functional division.

Applying this kind of logic, the reorganization of the International Relations Secretariat is again providing us with every opportunity for a renewed, dynamic approach to the FLN's international operations.

[REVOLUTION AFRICAINE] What I mean to say is: Will this transformation of the FLN Party, opening it to all approaches, introduce changes in foreign relations by applying the sacrosanct principle of "foreign policy must reflect domestic policy"?

[Dellouci] Basically, the transformation of the FLN Party does not involve any notable changes. The validity of the basic principles that have always served to orient Algeria's foreign policy will be fully preserved. What is involved are intangible principles on which there is a general consensus in our country. Moreover, you will have noted that the fundamental political debates produced by the recent reforms have at no time challenged our options nor affected Algeria's way of handling its international affairs.

I believe that the people of Algeria continue to be very much attached to these principles that—we must remember—originated in the values that nourished our struggle for national liberation, that is, all of the people of Algeria's struggle.

These principles and these values continue to be deeply anchored in citizens' consciousness. It is their function to rally our society and, as concerns the FLN, mobilize the different factions it is composed of.

I don't think that such an approach, such a line of action, nor even such a political course challenges or is intended to lay open to question our options for an independent, nonaligned foreign policy, our support of struggles for national liberation, the struggle for the advent of a new international economic order, the promotion of South-South cooperation, the campaign for complete universal disarmament and for the determination of a universal collective security plan and, alongside the other democratic and progressive forces in the world, the resolute fight against any form of domination and exploitation.

[REVOLUTION AFRICAINE] Don't you think that the institution responsible for friendship and solidarity with [other] peoples could be entrusted to an autonomous and independent agency so that it would be more credible and be able to coordinate its relations with those non-governmental organizations having almost the same missions?

[Dellouci] You speak of credibility and coordination; these two virtues naturally have their origin in a third: consistency. The functional integration of FLN foreign policy is going to bestow upon those initiatives having to do with friendship and solidarity greater effectiveness and a broader field of action.

As I indicated before, such an approach is aimed at coordinated integration of missions and decompartmentalization. The risks of dysfunction introduced by artificial separation are thus eliminated.

In this case, it is not the organization that creates the function, but quite the contrary, the actions and missions that determine the appropriate kind of organization and disposition. Thanks to close coordination, the organization that has been established today enables us to endow FLN foreign policy with unity, coordination and consistency, that is, greater credibility in the final analysis, while preserving the specific character of certain functions.

[REVOLUTION AFRICAINE] Coordination hasn't been the strong suit of the executive, political and legislative institutions responsible for foreign relations. What is being planned to remove the danger of compartmentalization?

[Dellouci] There may have been a few inadequacies in this area. On the whole, I feel that Algeria's overall foreign policy has been pursued within the framework of a unified dynamic process. Different factors affecting international relations, of course, intervene in specific areas. The latter, however, serve as cross-checks on one another and constitute a complementary whole.

Our fundamental concern in connection with this will be directed toward greater efficacy. We will therefore make a point of developing consultations and coordination in our concern for increasingly coordinating initiatives and discussions involving the different areas of Algerian foreign policy.

[REVOLUTION AFRICAINE] We know that international relations have undergone radical changes essentially produced by East-West detente, about which the least that can be said is that it has had a particular impact on regional conflicts. From this point of view, shouldn't the FLN review its approach to international issues in order to acquire a new view of cooperation with foreign political movements?

[Dellouci] The changes you are talking about in the field of international relations, which are considerable, are actually a reflection of the prodigious transformations the world has been undergoing for nearly 50 years now. These changes today make imperative a veritable revision of our view of the world, indispensable to a comprehension of the movements, evolutions, and the stakes underlying them in the international arena.

For some 30 years now a new actor has been appearing on the international scene, the peoples of the Southern Hemisphere, new subjects of international relations. Recently instrumentalized and often still regarded as stakes in the game, this Third World is the bearer of aspirations and values that have contributed to the transformation of international law. It is fighting to challenge the institutions of the established international order. These aspirations and values have crystallized in the Nonaligned Countries Movement. This movement is itself being forced to think about its methods of action and its work style with an eye to adapting itself to the rapid changes the world is undergoing.

The extraordinary advances made in the sciences and technologies raise new questions. The prodigious development of communications tends to abolish distances and gives us a different view of international relations.

All of mankind faces—and for the first time in terms of survival—perils that scientific advances have not been able to eliminate. The gap between rich nations and poor nations is only widening and confrontation often takes precedence over dialogue; in too many situations force gets the upper hand over reason and law; anachronisms like Zionism and racism, vestiges of the era of triumphant colonialism that is now over, persist; new dangers threaten the human race with disintegration with sophisticated instruments of massive destruction under the pretense of being scientific conquests that are supposed to serve the well-being and advancement of man.

Never in the history of mankind have the nation of interdependence of peoples and the imperative of dialogue and solidarity shown themselves to be so crucial.

In connection with this, the new climate of detente that characterizes relations between the two superpowers warrants every hope as concerns the evolution of the so-called regional conflicts, since peace and security cannot be separated from one another.

A considerable number of steps have been taken in the direction of disarmament and others are looming on the horizon. A process like this will only become completely meaningful if it leads to complete, universal disarmament and the establishment of a collective security system in the elaboration of which all nations should be involved.

Self-interest must obviously give way to the imperatives of solidarity and cooperation under pain of aggravating the dangers that no nation, as powerful as it may be and locked in behind its borders, can hope to ward off alone.

Furthermore, the worldwide economic crisis, produced by structural disturbances in the dominant economies, but for which the countries of the Southern Hemisphere

are paying a high price, obviously shows that the long-term growth of the industrialized countries cannot be assured without a vigorous effort to develop the Third World countries.

Not the least of the scandals of our time is the growing imbalance between diminishing aid and the increasingly heavy drain imposed on the economies of the Third World countries, crushed by debt, by the industrialized countries.

It is advisable for us to replace the inequitable, royal prerogative system that produces instability and disturbances and governs international economic relations with a system of shared prosperity from which all the evils and calamities of another age, which are still the fate of too many human beings, would be banished.

This would, of course, be a long-term affair. To be brought to a successful conclusion, we feel that it must bring together peoples, political associations or others that represent them. It is therefore a matter of arranging for administrative staff for them and the channels that will permit them to communicate with one another. The FLN will be taking action with this in mind.

[REVOLUTION AFRICAINE] How does the FLN conceive of its contribution to the establishment of a Great Maghreb [Arab Northwest Africa]? In plain language, will it accord preference to relations with some parties rather than with others?

[Dellouci] The Maghreb plan is not a new idea. This plan was at the heart of the Algerian national movement's demands: It is indisputably in keeping with the wishes of the peoples of the region. It was forged in their common struggles and in the solidary fighting which several generations of militants participated in.

Today, this plan finds a peculiar echo in precisely the new challenges that have arisen throughout the world and which tend to favor the constitution of large wholes. The peoples of the Maghreb's major asset is the fact that everything is bringing them together again, objectively and subjectively viewed.

It is therefore a matter of methodically and rationally weaving a fabric of the reciprocities and joint liabilities that underlie any joint venture on the basis of everything that unites these peoples while avoiding any improvisation and any undue haste. We can no longer afford the luxury of a "washout."

It is therefore a matter of proceeding gradually and step by step. Everything in fact conspires for the realization of such an objective: history, geography, culture, and the potential economic interdependence to be brought into play.

There is also every indication that the Maghreb countries are on the right track. The first Maghreb summit at Zeralda should, in connection with this, be analyzed as a major contribution to the implementation of the process of creating a united Maghreb.

We may thus be permitted to establish an atmosphere favorable to the settling of differences that interfere with the creation of a Great Arab Maghreb, in particular by introducing clarifications that are indispensable to a correct understanding of the Western Sahara problem.

The new climate our region is today bathing in can only favor a just and final settlement of this problem in conformity with the principles established by the United Nations and the OAU. Important advances have now been made in connection with this: the resumption of the joint UN-OAU mission to organize a referendum in Western Sahara, following the agreement reached by the two parties to the conflict on Mr De Cuellar's proposals for his majesty, the king of Morocco, and the leaders of the Polisario Front to enter into a dialogue. All this is the product of a lengthy ripening period and it permits us to anticipate a settlement at an early date that will remove any obstacles to the peoples of the Maghreb in this joint venture.

We may now hope that the second Maghreb summit and President Chadli's visit to Morocco will lay the concrete foundations for this course of action.

Having already made a concrete contribution to consideration of the Maghreb union project in coordination with state institutions, the FLN is now going to apply itself to establishing contacts with its Maghreb partners, particularly those with large populations. In terms of the strategy of Algeria's approach, it will be a matter of promoting dialogue, mutual understanding, and a rapprochement of the two points of view.

It will also be important to establish solidarities in the rank and file by developing relations between the people's organizations: youths, workers, women, intellectuals. We will devote particular attention to organizing forums for the joint consideration of issues for the benefit of economists, legal experts, and sociologists to enable them to make their contribution to the grandiose effort for a Maghreb union.

[REVOLUTION AFRICAINE] What progress is being made on the plan for a union with Libya, the text for which has been drafted by the FLN Party?

[Dellouci] During the past few years cooperation between the two countries that have conferred on this solidarity an objective basis with the creation of joint commissions and numerous joint ventures and a spectacular development of [cultural and other] exchanges has received a decisive boost. As for the FLN, it has maintained permanent contacts and a constant dialogue

with the Jamahiriya's political and people's organizations; forums have been organized to promote rapprochement and coordination.

There is no contradiction—as you claim there is—between bilateral cooperation and dialogue and multilateral initiatives; they complement and should mutually reinforce one another.

The plan for an Algerian-Libyan union is progressing along these lines.

Some deadlines have been postponed because the time allowed for them was too short. We remain, as I have said, in regular contact with our Libyan brothers. There is no doubt that the new stimulus the Great Arab Maghreb Union is experiencing will enable us to achieve new breakthroughs and lead to a coordination of efforts and initiatives.

The in-depth action that has already been launched can only be reinforced and accelerated and it will have every chance to make of the Maghreb venture a model of regional consolidation for the Third World countries, a solid milestone on the road to Arab unity and an important contribution to African unity.

A Maghreb reconciled with itself in fact represents a considerable asset on the road to Arab unity and, first of all, in the search for united action by the Arab countries in the face of the common challenges they are confronted with. The unification of Arab ranks can only, in turn, cement unification of the Palestinian ranks, as was demonstrated by the special Arab summit in Algiers and the Palestinian National Council session held in our capital, which led to the proclamation of the state of Palestine.

There is, of course, underlying this new drive the extraordinary display of enthusiasm that has sustained the Palestinians in the occupied territories for over a year: the intifadah [uprising], that magnificent popular uprising which will be recorded in letters of gold in the history of the exploits of the different peoples involved in this struggle, has once and for all compelled the world to recognize the existence of a Palestinian nation as an incontrovertible fact and the central issue in what is conventionally referred to as the Middle East crisis.

The brutal repression and institutional terrorism to which the Zionist government has been subjecting the Palestinian people for 40 years will be unable to stifle their strong desire to create their own independent state in the land of their ancestors. Western Europe has begun to realize and sense the role it can assume in implementing the procedures for a settlement at this juncture with the convocation of an international conference in which the PLO is to participate on an equal footing. The open dialogue between the United States and the PLO is also a good sign.

[REVOLUTION AFRICAINE] Will the FLN gain acceptance of its ideology in its relations with the foreign parties to the affair?

[Dellouci] I think I've at least in part answered your question. For the FLN, the problem is not to inject more or less of its ideology into its relations with its partners.

Raised in this way, the problem is probably not very important. What is important is for us to adapt ourselves to the formidable changes that are affecting the world on the basis of the intangible principles that have always guided FLN foreign policy.

The ties the FLN has with its traditional friends will be strengthened and improved with our concern for the sensible pursuit [of our goals] and diversification of the forms of consultation and cooperation.

The dimension of economic cooperation will probably play a bigger role in the deliberations the FLN will be engaging in with its partners. Economic pressures are today shared by all of the countries no matter what their ideological leanings are and they constitute their primary concern.

Thus the FLN will have to expand the sphere of its friendships and relations by laying emphasis on those things that may bring the parties concerned closer to one another and develop understanding on the basis of mutual interest, especially aimed at those countries with whom our country is developing important economic relations. We will therefore make a point of reordering our efforts through the search for a dialogue based on a community of interests.

[REVOLUTION AFRICAINE] Might we imagine that the FLN would at some future time enter into close relations with conservative European parties? Will we see the FLN sign agreements with the U.S. Republican or Democratic Parties?

[Dellouci] Why not. Sticking to labels is not a responsible approach. It is advisable for us to take a look at history and, once again, obtain an accurate appraisal of the interests and the stakes that have been introduced by the new configuration of the modern world. Those who have short memories may have forgotten that some of the parties you just mentioned contributed precious aid to the people of Algeriaduring the trials and tribulations of the war for liberation.

You are certainly aware that colonialism or neocolonialism is neither rightist nor leftist, which explains why in the past, contrary to what your question leads one to suppose, the FLN had contacts and friendly relations with certain so-called conservative parties for the simple reason that the interests of the people of Algeria called for them.

In the present situation, as I already indicated, we will make a point of providing new incentives for our relations with democratic and progressive forces as well as with those parties belonging to the socialist community with whom old ties of friendship unite us. It is a question of imbuing this traditional friendship with new vigor.

We will, moreover, explore all possibilities for engaging in dialogue that are offered to us and we will exploit them on the basis of any points of convergence that may crop up between the FLN's principles of action and those its partners avail themselves of. For the FLN, it will mean promoting rapprochement and mutual understanding between the peoples concerned and engaging in a dialogue based on mutual interest and respect for each party's specific nature.

[REVOLUTION AFRICAINE] Do you have priority objectives?

[Dellouci] These priorities were determined at the first session of the Central Committee created by the Sixth Congress.

They have been entered in the International Relations Secretariat's action program and they emphasize our concern for starting with the neighboring countries. We have talked about the Maghreb and the Arab world within the particular scope of the Palestinian question. We are going to strive to improve the fraternal ties that unite the Algerian people with the other peoples of the African Continent.

As in Palestine, the struggles the peoples of South Africa and Namibia are waging demand our special attention at a time when these struggles are undergoing crucial developments.

The hardships these peoples have endured for too long must come to an end to permit them to enjoy a legitimate peace, for one of them through the establishment of majority rule and for the other through the achievement of independence. In connection with this, the FLN will consult with the ANC [African National Congress] and the SWAPO [Southwest African People's Organization] and make a point of examining, in concert with other parties from this continent or others, ways of accelerating settlement of these two issues. The expansion of the scope of the dialogue and the FLN's friendships that I spoke of earlier quite obviously concerns Africa, where it will mean initiating dialogue where it does not now exist and developing it with the parties and friendly movements.

The Mediterranean area, to which we belong, also offers us a field of cooperation and dialogue to promote and make fruitful. With our partners, we will look into ways of resuming dialogue with the region's progressive forces in the interest of developing new forms of exchanges. It is particularly important for us to promote relations at

the levels of young people, workers, women, and economists. These exchanges will enable us to develop mutual understanding, get rid of prejudices, and explore potential fields of economic cooperation on the basis of mutual interest.

And finally, we must establish a permanent relationship with the FLN rank and file with regard to foreign policy issues.

This relationship will rely on a support structure to be established soon and which will make it possible for militants to be regularly informed on FLN actions and initiatives aimed at the outside world.

Since they are informed, militants will be in a position to make an enlightened contribution with regard to these actions and to support them efficiently. This is the price of democracy and we are striving for it with determination.

BAHRAIN

Cultural Exchanges With Soviets To Be Initiated
44000265 Doha *GULF TIMES* in English
22 Dec 88 p 5

[Text] Bahrain's information minister, Tariq 'Abd-al-Rahman al-Mu'ayyid, has expressed his country's willingness to initiate cultural exchanges with the Soviet Union that could later "develop into political contacts and eventually economic cooperation."

Mu'ayyid, quoted by a Soviet press delegation, the first of its kind to visit Bahrain, hoped "we will start our cooperation in information, that is essential for international friendly understanding."

The minister, who was speaking to the Soviet newsmen praised highly Soviet stances in support of the Palestinian cause and efforts to settle the Iraq-Iran war.

He added that Manama and Moscow shared opinions on many international issues including "cooperation and understanding between states with different social and economic systems."

Bahrain welcomed the recent Soviet reforms and foreign policy, Mu'ayyid was quoted as saying. He pointed to the trade and industrial exhibition of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries that will open in Bahrain early in 1989, the first event of its kind in Gulf states.

"It will be indicative of Bahrain's sincere desire for cooperation," the minister emphasized.- KUNA

Gulf Center for Aluminum Industrialization Profiled

44000237 Muscat *UMAN* in Arabic 15 Nov 88 p 13

[Text] Official economic sources in Manamah stated yesterday that there is an intention to convert Bahrain to a center for aluminum industrialization in the Arab Gulf region.

Attributing its information to those sources, the Bahraini paper AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ stated that discussions took place between the Gulf Investment Corporation, the Ministry of Development and Industry, and the Ministry of Finance and National Economy on steps to be taken to guarantee that Bahrain occupies a central place in the region's aluminum industrialization in view of its great experience in this field.

The paper said that this attitude took form following the measures taken by the Ministry of Development and Industry regarding its plans aimed at encouraging the establishment of industrial projects in country and the ratification of the foreign capital investment system giving priority to industrial projects.

The sources praised the recent results obtained by the Bahrain Aluminum Industrialization Company (ALBA) and the Gulf Aluminum Rolling Mill Company (GARMCO) headquartered in Bahrain. In this regard, the sources pointed to the recent increased world demand for aluminum products and their improved prices in world markets.

It is noteworthy to point out that the GCC [Gulf Cooperation Council] states are planning, through the Gulf Industrial Investment Organization, to produce 1.5 million tons of aluminum by the turn of the century, a feat that requires the construction of seven aluminum smelters instead of the two existing smelters in the region which are ALBA in Bahrain and Royal in Dubayy.

EGYPT

Mubarak To Attend Industrial Nations Summit in July

45040215b London *AL-MUSTAQBAL* in Arabic
14 Jan 89 p 6

[Text] Informed sources in Paris said that President Husni Mubarak will actually attend part of the summit meeting of the seven industrial states to be held in the French capital in July. This will be the first time that an Arab leader has attended a summit meeting of the major industrial states, which are: the United States, France, Britain, Japan, West Germany, Italy, and Canada. The sources stated that Mubarak's participation in the summit was the result of a French-Egyptian wish, and that President Mubarak wants to take this opportunity to raise the problem of debts from which the third world

countries are suffering and to ask the seven major industrial states to take effective steps and measures to find a solution for this problem.

Foreign Currency Holdings Increased in 1987-88
45040215a London AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic
14 Jan 89 p 33

[Text] An Egyptian Ministry of Planning report has confirmed a major increase in Egyptian foreign currency holdings during 1987-88.

The report says that current revenues, including remittances by Egyptians abroad and other remittances, have increased to \$11.3 billion during last year, an increase of \$1.6 billion over 1986-87, representing a 17 percent increase.

The increase includes all the sources of current major revenues, which are goods exports, revenues from tourism, remittances of people working abroad, and Suez Canal transit revenues.

Cabinet Endorses Plan To Secure Food Supplies
JN2103214089 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic
19 Mar 89 p 1

[By Jamal Shawqi]

[Text] In its meeting yesterday under the chairmanship of Dr 'Atif Sidqi, the Council of Ministers discussed a number of reports on the status of basic supplies and foodstuffs for the next 3 months. The Council discussed ways to urgently secure \$300 million in basic commodities, raw materials, and foodstuffs.

AL-WAFD has learned that the government intends to use a part of the hard currency monetary reserves at the Central Bank to import the necessary commodities. The prime minister asked the competent ministers to expedite their efforts to take the measures needed for reducing current shortages in some food supplies.

AL-WAFD also learned that the Council of Ministers endorsed the implementation of an urgent emergency plan designed to secure the country's requirements of basic commodities during the coming 3 months. The Council also discussed the status of economic and food aid, which the big powers have suspended for months.

The Council of Ministers had held a meeting yesterday morning during which it discussed a report prepared by Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, on the talks held by President Mubarak in European states and their political and economic results.

Third Phase Contract for Cairo Plan Signed With France

NC1503215689 Cairo MENA in English
1925 GMT 15 Mar 89

[Text] Egypt and France signed today the third phase contract of the Cairo urban development plan in which France is taking part. Minister of Housing and New Communities Hasaballah al-Kafrawi signed for the Egyptian side while the visiting director of the Paris Planning Department signed for the French side.

The 3.2 million French franc contract is a grant from France in the form of technical aid and experts' salaries over 2 years to replan suburbs within greater Cairo.

AL-QABAS on FRG Aid to Egypt, IMF Conditions

JN1703114689 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic
15 Mar 89 p 13

[By 'Adil Ilyas in Bonn]

[Excerpts] After the first day of Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's visit to Bonn, the FRG Government announced its readiness to approve an increase in development—or, in other words, financial and economic—aid to Egypt in order to support Cairo's plans to ease the economic crisis in Egypt. As is known, Egypt each year obtains much FRG financial aid, and it has become the second of the world's countries, after India, which obtains FRG aid. This aid is approximately DM300 million, corresponding to \$140 million per year. However, an FRG Government source has told AL-QABAS that aid to Egypt is decreasing and is disbursed very slowly.

AL-QABAS has learned that the funds which the FRG has agreed to grant to Egypt exceed 1.4 billion marks, corresponding to approximately \$900 million. These funds have accumulated with the passage of years and have not yet been disbursed. Bonn and Cairo are exerting great political efforts to disburse these funds, especially since Bonn says—but not in public—that the reason for the accumulation of aid is the great slowness in the Egyptian ministries' completion and presentation of plans according to which disbursement of aid can be secured.

Bonn still considers that the core of economic talks between Egypt and the FRG is how to find a way by which the FRG can help resolve the problem of rescheduling or postponing the payment of Egyptian debts. This problem cannot be resolved without the approval of the IMF. Egyptian President Mubarak has officially requested FRG mediation with the IMF. The most urgent issue on which Mubarak seeks Bonn's mediation is to convince the IMF to ease its conditions and demands in order to approve the rescheduling of Egyptian debts and postpone their payment.

Egyptian President Husni Mubarak agrees in principle on the IMF conditions, but he is still opposed to their quick implementation all at once, as the IMF demands. The Egyptian president warned those with whom he met in the FRG that immediate implementation of the IMF conditions and demands means social and political disturbances in Egypt. Moreover, their implementation all at once means removal of the subsidization of many commodities necessary for the Egyptians, including food, such as bread and meat, and clothes and will also lead to a large increase in the prices of electricity, fuel, and other commodities. [passage omitted]

The FRG Government has declined to define the value of the financial aid in the new debt rescheduling. It has been content with leaking reports to the effect that it is ready to help Egypt improve administration and planning in order to reduce the disbursement of the available funds.

Electricity Minister on New Power Plant
JN1803154589 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic
17 Mar 89 p 6

[By Sana' 'Uthman]

[Text] Al-Sharqiyah—Mahir Abazah, minister of electricity and energy, has said that preparations are underway for a large project to build a power station in 'Uyun Musa in Sinai, which will be fuelled by coke and natural gas, to cover the needs of the Tabah area. The electricity will be transferred through an underground cable across the Gulf of Aqaba to Al-'Aqabah in Jordan, and then to Damascus, Ankara, Istanbul, and Europe. He said that this project was approved by the 5-member committee, which held its meetings in Ankara and which was attended by ministers of electricity in Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Turkey, and Iraq.

The project, which will cost \$170 million, will be financed by the Arab Fund according to a joint agreement on an electricity link among the Arab states, Turkey, and Europe.

The minister added that all transformers and electrical networks in Tabah were received without paying any compensation, and that these will be used to link Tabah with the [Suez] Canal zone and Cairo.

The minister, accompanied by al-Sharqiyah Governor Mahmud al-Sharif, inaugurated a number of projects in different fields in Minya al-Qamh on this occasion.

Arab Opposition Activities Suspended
JN1603162989 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic
13 Mar 89 p 1

[By 'Abd-al-Nabi 'Abd-al-Sattar]

[Text] Egypt has decided to curb the activities of Arab opposition groups, Arab political refugees, and the African liberation movements offices in Cairo soon. This decision is to improve Egyptian-Arab relations.

Egypt has suspended the information and political activities of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Saquia El Hamra and Rio de Oro [Polisario], the Yemeni national grouping, the Libyan opposition members, the Eritrean Revolutionary movement, as well as the activities of former Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri. Recently, the Egyptian media have been ignoring the Eritrean problem out of concern for the strong relations which exist between Cairo and Addis Ababa. Egypt had also suspended all forms of military assistance to the Afghan mujahidin as part of the efforts to establish peace between the various Afghan forces and to substantiate its commitment to the USSR not to supply the Afghan mujahidin with Egyptian-made weapons or military hardware following the Soviet forces withdrawal from Afghanistan on 15 February.

Socialist Labor Party Split Discussed
PM1603101089 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT
in Arabic 14 Mar 89 p 3

[Unattributed report: "Egyptian Opposition Crisis Worsens; New Split in Labor Party"]

[Excerpt] Cairo, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT Bureau—While the Egyptian opposition continues to suffer from the negative effects of its clash with Interior Minister Major General Zaki Badr in the Parliament session the week before last, a major split has occurred in the [Socialist] Labor Party [SLP], the largest opposition party in Parliament, whose leader Ibrahim Shukri heads the opposition.

It happened following the party's fifth general conference last Thursday and Friday (9-10 March), at which six Labor Party parliamentary deputies decided to submit a note to Parliamentary Speaker Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub indicating that they are the Labor Party's true representatives.

The split occurred as a result of the clash at the general conference between the Islamic trend—linked with the [Muslim] Brotherhood group under the Tripartite alliance, which contested the April 1987 parliamentary elections and is supported by party leader Ibrahim Shukri and AL-SHA'B chief editor 'Adil Husayn—and the self-styled socialist tendency led by deputy party leader Ahmad Mujahid.

The latter tendency protested Ibrahim Shukri's assertion that the party has become Islamic and that it is meaningless to classify its members into any other categories. Expressing his view of the meeting, Parliamentary deputy Jamal As'ad emphasized that the new statement by the party leader conflicts with party rules which forbid the formation of any party on a religious basis.

He added: Ibrahim Shukri has thus become leader of a new party—not the SLP, whose establishment was agreed by the Party Affairs Committee in 1979. He also

indicated that the new party rejects the presence of the socialists within its ranks, adding that Shukri described the socialists as nonreligious.

Ibrahim Shukri had urged the party's general conference not to elect that tendency's candidates to the new Executive Committee last Friday. Shukri threatened to resign if they were elected to the committee.

This contributed to the failure of deputy party leader Ahmad Mujahid's list, since only two of those on it became Executive Committee members, namely, Hamid Zaydan and Dr Salah 'Abdallah, whereas the Islamic tendency list, headed by 'Adil Husayn won the remaining 28 seats.

As a result, the members of the socialist tendency split away under Ahmad Mujahid. The dissidents will call for the convening of a new general party conference to complete the agenda which the recent conference, held 9-10 March, did not discuss.

Ahmad Mujahid told AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT that the conference will be held in about 45 days, that is, once the signatures of half the party members have been gathered in accordance with regulations. [passage omitted]

Leaders of 'Ayn Shams Islamic Group Interviewed
45040197B Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 3 Jan 89 p 3

[Interview with Ahmad 'Abd-al-Rahman: "We Do Not Reject Dialogue, and We Do Not Charge Society With Unbelief"; date and place not specified]

[Text] The government press waged a campaign of defamation and slander against the Muslim youth in 'Ayn Shams, portraying them as setting up a state where they engage in flogging, pillage and bloodshed. How true are these charges and what is the truth about what goes on in the minds of the Muslim youth in 'Ayn Shams? To learn about all of this, we met, after several attempts, with two Islamic group leaders in 'Ayn Shams to ask them the following questions:

[AL-SHA'B] What are the true reasons behind the frequent clashes in the 'Ayn Shams area, where tension has become the distinguishing feature?

['Abd-al-Rahman] The Islamic Group openly declares that its objective is to establish an Islamic state that applies God's shari'ah and rule. In order to realize this goal, the group is claiming its full rights, and under no conditions does it accept half solutions, nor does it wish to meet with governments that do not apply the shari'ah, or to offer concessions. The regime, no doubt, does not want to permit this ideology to spread and manifest itself. For when it does, the regime begins curtailing, undercutting, and liquidating it. This is exactly what is happening in 'Ayn Shams, as evidenced by the fact that last August, security forces broke into the Adam Mosque during the group's weekly meeting for no other purpose

than to undermine the group's role in the region, because they had noticed that the people were rallying around us. Then came the recent round in the wake of the group's growing popularity, especially since the Friday prayers were attended by more than 7,000 worshippers, thus prompting the regime, in the face of such popularity, to invoke the policy of undercutting and incessant liquidation vis-a-vis the group. What happened in 'Ayn Shams was not the first incident of its kind, for it had already happened in Minya, Asyut, Ismailia, and al-Mansurah, where security agencies engage in periodic arrests of Islamic group leaders and members, holding them in prison for long periods of time. It is no secret that over 2,000 group leaders and members are in Egyptian prisons, some of the members having been held for 8 months notwithstanding repeated release orders from the courts. One example is Muhammad Taysir of 'Ayn Shams who was arrested on his wedding night and Dr Ahmad 'Abdu who has been held for 8 months and has not been released, even though several release orders have been obtained.

[AL-SHA'B] What is the group's opinion on the death of Lt Col 'Isam Shams?

['Abd-al-Rahman] Regarding the death of an officer, the Islamic Group's leaders were not consulted on the decision. But what else can honorable men do about someone who arrests women and tortures them at the 'Ayn Shams police station, who kills the innocent—last August he killed six citizens—who arrests children, who destroys houses, who breaks into mosques and who gives protection for forbidden activities?

[AL-SHA'B] Do you think that there has been a change recently in interior ministry procedures, which led to these clashes?

['Abd-al-Rahman] The fact is that the interior minister is merely an implementer of policy set by the regime. Ahmad Rushdi used to implement a specific policy and Zaki Badr is implementing a different policy set by the regime. Zaki Badr, however, stands out from the rest by his tendency toward bloodshed, tyranny, and terror. Under the regime's policy during the Ahmad Rushdi era, there was a kind of stability and tranquility, but the regime's policy in the Zaki Badr era brought about turmoil, unrest, assassinations, demonstrations, and the leaflet war. Undoubtedly, all of this simply and solely poses a threat to the regime.

[AL-SHA'B] Why don't you adopt the direct dialogue approach to avert frequent clashes?

['Abd-al-Rahman] We certainly do not reject, and indeed we accept dialogue, as witnessed by our repeated meetings with the minister of awqaf and with the grand mufti in the various governorates. We were surprised, however, by certain facts, including the fact that the ulema' have been defending and making unwarranted excuses for the regime and have not admitted to the youth the

obvious fact that the regime is violating the Islamic shari'ah, thus evoking young people's mistrust in the ulema'. Two months ago, we met with the minister of awqaf at his ministry office. He said that, in order to suppress the clashes with the security forces, we must not subject security officers to our actions related to the application of the shari'ah or forbidding wrongdoing. We told him that we rejected this demand on principle, because such issues are the essence of Islam, and we could not overlook them. We left this session with the hope of putting forth some other solutions.

[AL-SHA'B] But you charge society with unbelief, and you impose your opinion by force.

[Abd-al-Rahman] We are a group that proclaims that our doctrine, on the whole and in the specifics, is that of the worthy ancestors. This doctrine provides that no Muslim shall be unlawfully charged with unbelief. We do not charge anyone with unbelief and indeed we retaliate against those who advocate such a thing. We do not accept in our midst anyone who charges Muslims with unbelief, and our positions on the Takfir Group and its followers are known to all. We do not even charge the police and Central Security with unbelief despite all their actions of killing, torture, and obstruction of Islamic proselytizing. We have prepared many studies in support of that, such as the studies on using ignorance as an excuse, on contract of clientage, and on criticism of the doctrine on accusation of unbelief. As for imposing our opinion by force, it is a misplaced portrayal for we follow the method of enjoining what is right and forbidding what is wrong, in accordance with legal precepts. What are we supposed to do, for example, with drug, prostitution, and pornographic movie pushers, keeping in mind that the regime is aware of them and provides them with protection? There is no doubt that our religion and our concern for Muslim youth make it incumbent upon us to intervene. Regarding the claim that we impose our ideas, our opinion, and our approach by force, this is simply not true, for we advise and we elucidate, and whoever follows us will enjoy God's grace and whoever opposes us, we respect and appreciate him to the same extent as he is right.

[AL-SHA'B] But you are imposing taxes in 'Ayn Shams, banning weddings and funerals, and flogging the people.

[Abd-al-Rahman] We have never imposed taxes or banned weddings or funerals. No one in his right mind can make these allegations. What we are doing is, when a wedding occurs, we take gifts to the people involved and congratulate them and ask them not to bring in seminaked dancers. This is an effort to protect the youth and their morals. The great majority of the people have encouraged and responded to our request, but in one instance the wedding party refused our request, so we prevented the dancer from getting to the area, but did not interfere with the wedding.

The strange thing is that the government newspapers disapprove of holding weddings at the Adam Mosque. Is this the kind of forbidden thing the state wants to ban?

Another strange thing is a report published in AKHBAR AL-YAWM claiming that we prevented a lady from leaving her home to go to work. The newspaper did not mention what kind of job the lady had and what exactly she did. She is a neighborhood dancer who seduces young girls and lures them to prostitution. The police officers are well aware of that but have not done anything about it. As for citizen Muhyi-al-Din whom the newspaper said we flogged because he notified the police about our embezzling votive offering funds, his allegations are totally false, because the Adam Mosque does not have a tomb where people make offerings. This person was known in the area as a state security operative. As for the rest, they were all informers, and all the people in the area are aware of that. Add to that the fact that each and every call to Islam provokes opposition and adversaries bent on vilifying it.

If this is the way we are treating the neighborhood people, why would they so doggedly defend us and offer their lives to protect us? They took heroic stands in both cases when security forces broke into the mosque. Does it make sense that people whom we flog and tax should come forward to protect and defend us?

Indeed, it is the other way around. We take care of orphans and spend money on the poor and the deprived. In this regard, we have established in 'Ayn Shams a mutual fund, a complete medical clinic, and student enrichment programs, as well as a workshop for young girls in an apartment in the area.

[AL-SHA'B] The Interior Ministry has stated that it planned to liquidate and do away with any Islamic Group activities in Cairo and other regions. What do you say to that?

[Abd-al-Rahman] It is clear that the regime intends to do that, as evidenced by its recent murder of three group members who security agencies claimed opened fire on them. The truth is that these people did not have any weapons or explosives and that the security agencies intended to kill them anyway. Newspaper reports are the best proof of that, for they mentioned that they had a Port Sa'id machinegun. A picture of the body of a respectable person later appeared in the press with an automatic weapon, which no one except the special forces can own or obtain, laid next to it. We are not intimidated or daunted by the regime's actions, for these three martyrs are not the first and will not be the last ones, because we are ready to give our lives in support of God's religion. An intrinsic point of which the regime is well aware is that the group has thousands of people who have no use for this policy. Indeed, if one of them feels that the regime is going to persist in this policy, he will use any means to defend himself and his religion. For

God Almighty says: "If any one transgresses against you transgress ye likewise against him," and, "in the law of equality there is life to you, O ye men of understanding."

So if the young people feel that they have nothing to lose, they will spare nothing, for violence begets violence, suppression begets eruptions, and blood begets more blood. Let the regime bear the consequence of its practices, through which it is condemning its existence and its interests.

If the regime thinks that it can suppress and eliminate the Islamic movement, it is wrong. History attests to the fact that regimes that seek such actions perish and disappear, while the Islamic movement will endure and prosper.

NDP Reports Unemployment Figures
45040232b Cairo ROSE AL-YUSUF in Arabic
6 Feb 89 p 4

[Text] Studies prepared by special committees in the National Democratic Party [NDP] regarding the unemployment problem showed that 80 percent of those looking for jobs have middle- and high-level qualifications. The political leadership had asked the committee that the studies be practical and relevant, and not express narrow views.

On the other hand, the manpower committee in the People's Assembly has prepared an important memo about unemployment. It confirms that the manpower chart shows an increase in surplus workers in relation to the work force by 6 percent in 1960, 7.8 percent in 1976, 9 percent in 1980, and 10.3 percent in 1986. Meanwhile, the memo, which was prepared by a committee headed by Mukhtar 'Abd-al-Hamid, chairman of the assembly's manpower committee, estimates manpower at 14 million people, of which the number of unemployed is 2.8 million.

The memo also shows a major increase in manpower surplus in the rural areas in comparison with urban areas.

The memo indicates that if the new investments are fully utilized in accordance with the 1987-92 5-year plan, the number of workers absorbed will be equal to that entering the job market annually (400,000 people) and the number of unemployed will remain unchanged.

Reasons Given for Labor Market Fluctuation
45040234a Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 21 Feb 89 p 7

[Article by Tal'at al-Tarabishi]

[Text] Imbalance in the labor market has become a common phenomenon in Egypt in recent years. This has affected economic activities and has become an obstacle to development, especially because of the fluctuation of labor emigration and labor returning to Egypt, of the

substantial rise in unemployment rates which, according to statistics of the Central Office for General Mobilization and Statistics, reached 22 percent, which means the annual addition of 450,000 persons to the ranks of the unemployed, the majority of whom are new graduates, something that threatens the political and social situation in Egypt. This calls for reorganizing labor traffic and emigration in Egypt and in some of the Arab countries, in light of the negative effects the Egyptian workers' emigration policy had on the Egyptian labor market.

Studies by the ministries of manpower, emigration, and affairs of Egyptians abroad attribute the imbalance of the Egyptian labor market to the lack of cautious and prudent policy on the part of the Egyptian government regarding Egyptian emigration abroad during the past 8 years of tension in the Gulf region because of the Iraq-Iran war. As a result, there has been an increase in the rate of Egyptian reimmigration, Egyptians returning from the Arab oil countries as a result of the recession in the oil market and drop in oil revenues. This has prompted many Arab countries employing foreign labor to review the policy toward such labor.

The largest number of returning workers Egypt witnessed was in 1984, 1985, and 1986 when it reached 64 percent. Cairo and Alexandria governorates had the highest share of it.

Studies indicate that increase in the surplus of graduates is one of the phenomena of imbalance in the labor market. According to Ministry of Manpower data, the surplus of graduates in the past 10 years went up from 50,000 to 5.8 million graduates who have been appointed in jobs in accordance with decisions by the higher policies committee through the manpower offices, despite the fact that the labor market's need for graduates is no more than 50 percent of their total number.

Labor in the services sector in 1987 reached 2.8 million compared with 1.2 million in 1976, which is a far greater growth rate than in manpower in the various [other] sectors.

Data by the Ministry of Manpower and the Central Department for Mobilization and Statistics show a drop in the rate of manufacturing workers from 22.3 to 20.1 and an increase in the number of office workers from 7.6 to 8.5 in the past 3 years.

Data by the Central Department for Organization and Management shows an increase in the number of employees in the government sector from 2.7 million in 1982-83 to 3.5 million in 1986-87, representing an increase of 22 percent. It also shows an increase in employment in all the local administration units from 1.4 million in 1982-83 to 1.9 million in 1986-87, representing an increase of 10.7 percent. [figures as published]

Counselor 'Abd-al-Rahim Shalabi, in the Institute of Diplomatic Studies at the Foreign Ministry, believes that the phenomenon of fluctuation in Egyptian worker' emigration is due to political and economic considerations in the host countries. The political rapprochement between Egypt and some of the Arab governments hosting Egyptian labor has opened the borders and increased emigration to those countries. An additional factor is economic, i.e., the adoption of ambitious plans by those countries.

With a quick glance, we can see that political and economic considerations are among the factors that had a great effect on straining Egypt's relations with some Arab countries, including Syria and Libya.

Counselor 'Abd-al-Rahim Shalabi believes that political considerations are a primary factor. They enable the countries exporting labor to provide political support for their communities abroad and help them in obtaining the best employment terms, which is achieved at the expense of other communities, depending on the strength and depth of political relations with these countries. There are many examples: one is Iraq, which obtained preferential treatment by virtue of its proximity to the Gulf states. Another is the Palestinian community in view of the Arab countries' historical responsibility toward the Palestinian problem. Meanwhile, Egyptian communities abroad enjoy no such support, despite Egypt's economic need, because of the strain in political relations in the past with some of the Arab countries, particularly since the signing of the 1987 Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty [date as published].

Wasted Energy Causes Industrial Sector Problems
45040232a Cairo AL-NIQABI AL-'ARABI in Arabic
Dec 88 pp 26, 27

[Article by Ahmad Yusuf Wahdan]

[Text] The importance of analyzing wasted energy is that it reveals the real reasons for the shortfall in production, since it produces a simple index figure of potential increase in production if energy is fully exploited.

The study analyzes the phenomenon of wasted energy in the industrial sector in general, and the weaving and textile industry in particular. Chapter one of the study deals with the theoretical aspect of this phenomenon with respect to concept, means of measurement, and the economic causes and effects. It then moves to studying wasted energy in public sector companies in the Egyptian weaving and textile industry. The first section of it is devoted to explaining the position of the weaving and textile sector in the Egyptian industry and analyzing its structure in order to demonstrate the importance of the public sector companies in the weaving and textile industry, the subject of the study.

The second section of the chapter deals with the amount of wasted energy in these companies and analyzes its reasons, explaining their various economic effects from

the profitability aspect for these companies, their pricing standards, employment, and their effect on the trade balance.

The third chapter is devoted to analyzing the phenomenon of wasted energy in a public sector company in the weaving and textile industry, namely al-Wajh al-Qibli Weaving and Textile Company, on the basis of a field study carried out by the researcher.

The research shows that public sector companies in the weaving and textile industry in particular suffer from the problem of wasted energy. The value of wasted energy in those companies in 1983-84 reached about 190 million pounds, representing about 13 percent of actual production and about 24 percent of the total wasted energy in the industrial public sector that year. The wasted energy in these companies during the period under study was mainly in the sector's principal or pivotal activities, such as cotton weaving and fibers (an average of 27 percent of the wasted energy), cotton fabrics (average 19 percent), and wool weaving and fabrics (an average of 12 percent).

The study affirms that problems of wasted energy in the weaving and textile sector stem from similar reasons in the sector's different companies. This was evident through the analysis of this problem's causes in the sector and comparing them with those demonstrated by the case study—the al-Wajh al-Qibli Weaving and Textile Company—in that the field investigation carried out by the researcher shows that the most important reasons for wasted energy in the company are as follows:

- Worker absence, representing an average of 60 percent of the reasons for wasted energy on the company level and 30 percent on the sector level.
- Maintenance, representing an average of 20 percent of the company's total energy and 30 percent of the sector's. The problem becomes worse because of continuous replacement and renewal and because of obsolete machinery. This reason alone represents an average of 6.5 percent of all the reasons for the wasted energy in the company and an average of more than 7 percent in the sector.
- Power cuts, representing an average of 5.2 percent of the total of reasons for wasted energy on the company level and an average of 10 percent on the sector level.
- Deficiency in the financial structure—This reason has played a limited role in the cause of wasted energy in the company, but represents a major cause for wasted energy on the sector level. The deficiency is mainly due to lack of liquidity in most of the sector's companies, causing bottlenecks of raw materials and spare parts. Shortage in materials represents an average of 5.2 percent of the causes of wasted energy in the company, while with respect to the sector this rate reached an average of 11 percent because of shortage of raw materials and an average of 2.3 percent because of lack of spare parts.
- Marketing problem—The majority of companies suffer from an increase in their stockpiled finished

material which is considered wasted energy, in addition to the fact that it is one of the major reasons for causing wasted energy in the companies.

There is no doubt that, as the study shows, these reasons had their evident effect on the levels of productivity, profitability, and employment in the subject company of the study. Employing the wasted energy could have reduced the company's financial deficit and improved its financial position by the net operating funds becoming a positive value and by increasing its own self-financing funds, which could cover a major part of projects that are underway and lessen dependence on loans with their attendant interests, and enhance cash liquidity in the company.

It would have also been possible to boost the productivity of both work and capital by 5 percent during the period 1980-81 to 1984-85, which would have led to increasing the company's profits and improving its financial position. We would also find that utilizing the wasted energy could have increased job opportunities in the company, whether we assume that it is impossible to put an end to the phenomenon of absenteeism, in which case utilizing the wasted energy would have required employing more than 1,000 workers annually during the period 1980-84 and 500 in 1984-85, or assume that it would be possible to end the phenomenon of absenteeism, in which case the required number of additional workers would be 200 workers in the year 1980-81 and about 700 workers in the year 1984-85. As for the year 1984-85 the company would have needed only 490 workers, in addition to the absent workers, who total 560 workers.

The above shows the seriousness of the phenomenon of wasted energy, which makes it a basic priority in the current plans to put an end to it in all the industrial sectors in general, and the weaving and textile industry in particular, in view of the importance and position of this sector in our national economy.

New City Proposed for Arab League Housing
45040215c Cairo AL-AHRAM AL-IQTISADI in Arabic
30 Jan 89 p 22

[Article by Mahmud Murad]

[Excerpt] Egypt's return to the Arab League has become a foregone conclusion. Indeed, the Arab League's return to its historical location in Cairo has become a matter of course, needing only to be put into effect. According to what I heard from a senior Arab League official I met at the Arab Strategic Conference at AL-AHRAM newspaper, all the Arab countries welcome Egypt, the big sister and the strong support, with the exception of Libya, which, although did not welcome it, did not object to Egypt's return. No one in the Arab nation can deny Egypt's role or the effectiveness of its present political leadership and its actions, which are always usefully inclined in favor of Arab issues and Arab rights.

An Arab League official said that the matter needs no scenario and, adding laughingly, no producer to produce

the historical scene of Egypt's return. Most probably, this subject is being currently discussed.

I heard something similar to what I heard from the Arab League official from other Arab ambassadors and diplomats. This confirms that the next Arab summit will be held not later than next spring and it will truly be a historic Arab summit.

I believe that we, Egypt, must get prepared.

And because I definitely believe that Egypt is politically ready, I would like to point out to another kind of preparation, namely "housing diplomats and staff working in the Arab League and its institutions." I would like to submit a proposal to [Foreign Minister] Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid and [Minister of Housing, Utilities, and New Communities] Hasaballah al-Kafrawi in order to discuss it. I believe that it is easy and possible to implement.

Briefly, my proposal is to build a diplomatic city that can be situated alongside Madinat Nasir according to the plans being drawn up by the construction company under engineer Hazim al-'Abd. I would imagine that there are large areas suitable for this purpose lying between Madinat Nasir and Misr al-Jadidah alongside the areas allocated for al-Ahli club or other areas. It is also possible, if there is a lack of space, to locate the proposed diplomatic city in one of the 10 new suburbs that will be built around the new road encircling Cairo, so that one of these would become a diplomatic city. This is quite possible.

The new city will not only include houses for diplomats and staff working in the returning Arab League, but would also include houses for diplomats and staff working in organizations that come under it, as well as houses for any of the Arab and foreign embassies and international organizations that may so wish. It can also include buildings for embassies and organizations whose present accommodations have become too small and who are looking for new headquarters.

Obviously, the city will contain all kinds of high-level services, including economic, commercial, health, social, cultural, and artistic facilities, as well as a sports club and other such facilities. It would also be of an original, nonconventional design taking security matters into consideration. It would be linked to Cairo and the nearby cities with direct roads. The importance of the proposed city lies in the fact that:

1. It would provide suitable accommodation—villas and apartments—and services to diplomats and the like.
2. It would represent an element of attraction to the area and its surroundings, thereby reducing congestion in greater Cairo.
3. It would give importance to the new suburbs.

4. It would provide modern cities, security, and control at a time when security has become a basic necessity in planning, expansion, and urban development.

5. I would even say that the new city could include a new building for the Arab League that would suit its status, development, and needs, although the latter item can be deferred as it does not hamper the immediate implementation of the city project which will be in great demand, particularly since it will have a better climate, higher standard facilities, and other advantages.

I believe that al-Kafrawi, thanks to his vitality and practical and unconventional thinking, is capable of carrying out the project. I believe that the diplomatic quarters will be pleased, will immediately sign contracts, and will pay. [passage omitted]

Controversy Causes Press Appointment Delay
45040234b Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic
18 Feb 89 p 8

[Text] Changes in the journalistic field in Egypt that were expected to take place on 11 February have been postponed until next May and, perhaps, indefinitely. Dr 'Ali Lutfi, chairman of the Supreme Press Council, had spoken about these changes and Musa Sabri, the well-known writer for AL-AKHBAR, had fixed a date for their announcement during the press conference which Makram Muhammad Makram, candidate for the position of union leader of Egyptian journalists, held at AKHBAR AL-YAWM. But the date has passed without the changes being announced. 'Abd-al-Halim Hamrush was expected to assume chairmanship of ROSE AL-YUSUF's board of directors; Mufid Fawzi, chief editorship of SABAH AL-KHAYR; Shawqi al-Qay'i, chairmanship of AL-JUMHURIYAH board of directors; Mahmud al-Ansari, chief editorship of AL-JUMHURIYAH; and Dr Samir 'Abd-al-Raziq, chairmanship of the AKHBAR AL-YAWM organization.

Many rumors were circulated in press circles, saying that the main reason for postponing these changes was a request by Makram Muhammad Makram, candidate for the position of union leader of Egyptian journalists, to President Husni Mubarak to postpone these changes so that they will not adversely affect his election. It is said that the government has responded to Makram Muhammad Makram's request.

However, it was later established that the real reason for the postponement of press changes is the large number of protest telegrams sent to AL-AKHBAR and AKHBAR AL-YAWM organizations and to President Mubarak personally protesting against the candidate for the chairmanship of AL-AKHBAR, namely Samir 'Abd-al-Raziq, one of the organization's circulation managers, who is strongly backed by Musa Sabri. For the first time in the AL-AKHBAR organization, there was a consensus among all the organization's editors to object to the new

chairman of the organization, which prompted the government to postpone the press changes.

The term of office for newspapers editors in chief and board chairmen expired 2 years ago and new appointments were expected to be made, but each time they were postponed. This does not give rise to the hope that these changes will take place in the immediate future.

During his stay in Aswan, President Husni Mubarak received Makram Muhammad Makram, candidate for the post of union leader of Egyptian journalists, and gave him an interview for AL-MUSAWWAR magazine.

Cairo Paper Hits 'U.S. Pressure' on Egypt
PM2303141689 Cairo AL-AHRAR in Arabic
20 Mar 89 p 2

[Unattributed article: "Signs of U.S. Cold War Against Egypt"]

[Text] Writing in these same columns some weeks ago—when U.S. fighter planes shot down two Libyan planes over the Mediterranean in the wake of the ferocious U.S. campaign against Libya and allegations that it had built a chemical plant for the production of chemical weapons and poison gas—I clearly stated the idea that the fierce U.S. attack on Libya was, in actual fact, a message addressed to all Arab states seeking to develop their military capabilities to defend themselves in the face of the serious threat posed by Israel's possession of nuclear weapons and long-range missiles capable of carrying nuclear and chemical warheads.

Before its anti-Libya campaign, the U.S. Government launched two other concerted media campaigns last year. The first was against Iraq over its alleged use of chemical weapons in the war against Iran. The Baghdad-Washington confrontation reached the point where former President Ronald Reagan's administration imposed economic sanctions against Iraq, which had made great progress in developing its long-range missiles, which in turn played a major part in making Iraq decide to stop the war after the Iraqi missiles reached its capital, Tehran.

While intensifying its campaign against Iraq, Washington, with Israel certainly behind it, launched a vicious campaign against the Saudi Government for purchasing long-range missiles with a range of up to 5,000 km. U.S. Congress pressures intensified to stop the sale of U.S. arms to Saudi Arabia and compel its government to remove the missiles or allow inspection of them. Saudi Arabia did not give in to U.S. pressures and there were increasing fears that Israel might mount a military strike against the missile sites.

If these intensified campaigns against Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Libya, and, before that, Syria, mean anything, they clearly mean that the U.S. Government—both under the former Reagan administration and under the current

Bush administration—does not want any Arab state to become a major military power that could pose a threat to Israel or help to make the Arab states a regional superpower that could threaten the other superpowers' interests and ambitions in the region, making the Arab states more independent in their decisionmaking.

It is in the light of these successive developments that one can interpret the new U.S. campaign against Egypt as a campaign which could be described as a "U.S. cold war" against Egypt, timed to coincide with President Hosni Mubarak's European tour. Washington has unleashed this campaign on two main fronts: the economic front, as reflected in the U.S. Government's announcement of a freeze on \$230 million of cash aid to Egypt; and the military front, as reflected in the charge that Egypt has built a chemical weapons plant with Switzerland's help.

The first charge is meant to exacerbate Egypt's economic crisis and to tell the outside world that the Egyptian economic situation is not good and that the Egyptian economy is going from bad to worse because the Egyptian Government did not adhere to the economic reform program and the IMF call for a reduction of the budget deficit through spending cuts, a wage freeze, higher prices, reduced subsidies on many basic commodities, and increased services charges. By taking this step, Washington perhaps hopes to shake the confidence of the major creditor international financial establishments in the Egyptian economy and make them refuse to extend any more loans or financial aid to Egypt.

The second charge clearly implies that Egypt is contributing to the escalation of the arms race in the Middle East and is violating the international laws and charters which ban the production and proliferation of chemical weapons. Actually, the U.S. Government did not officially accuse Egypt of producing chemical weapons in that plant. The charge came in a report published by THE NEW YORK TIMES, but the evidence is that such reports are usually leaked by U.S. official circles such as the Defense Department (the Pentagon), the State Department, or the CIA with the implicit knowledge of U.S. Government officials.

It is difficult to imagine the main motive behind the U.S. call considering its campaign for an improvement of Egypt's economic conditions or for implementation of the IMF program. All signs clearly confirm that Egypt is putting foreign loans to best use, perhaps in an unprecedented manner. Never before has Washington threatened to use the economic aid weapon—not even when Egypt did not make good use of such aid. That being the case, the recent U.S. measures against Egypt actually amount to severe pressure. A few of the objectives of that pressure can be discerned, but many are difficult to detect, since Egypt tries to pursue a foreign policy of complete neutrality toward all international powers within the framework of nonalignment, and since it resolutely develops its relations with all international

blooms, including the East, West, Africa, and the Arab world. One could name the following three factors as possible apparent causes of the U.S. pressures on Egypt:

1. The Egyptian role in the Palestinian issue: Egypt has indeed been able to play a vital and obvious role in giving the Palestinian cause a strong impetus and better projection at international level. If the stone-throwing children and the intifadah [uprising] have revived the Palestinian cause and given it international prominence, the extensive Arab and Egyptian moves have provided effective political support for the PLO and PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's moves. Although Egypt could play a significant part in this connection by virtue of its relations with Israel, the PLO, and the United States, there is clear resentment in both the United States and Israel because Egypt has espoused the PLO's demands for a Palestinian state. That stand has had a marked impact on the international scene, with most states agreeing that the PLO is entitled to the satisfaction of these demands. President Mubarak was one of the first people to press for the satisfaction of these demands, which left Israel diplomatically isolated in the world. President Mubarak has on several occasions repeated his sharp criticism of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir for opposing an international conference on the Middle East and for refusing to negotiate with the PLO, the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative.

This strong Egyptian presence in connection with the Palestinian question has naturally displeased U.S. and Israeli officials, especially when coupled with Egypt's powerful return to the Arab fold and the resumption of its diplomatic relations with all but two or three states, which heralds the prospect of a united pan-Arab anti-Israel stance. That might have prompted the United States to begin to exert pressure on the Egyptian Government by various means in order to minimize its prominent role at this stage or, in other words, restrict the Egyptian moves and divert attention from the Palestinian gains and the Israeli repressive practices in the occupied territory.

2. Egyptian-Soviet relations: There can be no doubt that Egyptian-Soviet relations are now at their best in 15 years, especially since Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze's recent visit to Cairo and his intensive political and diplomatic activity during that visit, not to mention the cooperation between the two countries in various fields and sectors.

That gives rise to the assumption that the Soviets might consolidate their presence in the Middle East, not only in Syria but also in Egypt—often considered a leading U.S. ally in the region by western states. The Egyptian gate for the Soviets' entry into the region has given the Kremlin a clear, prominent, and perhaps desirable role to play in the Middle East peace process. This improvement in Egyptian-Soviet relations could be a cause of concern for the Bush administration, which is still studying the situations in many regions of the world, including the

Middle East, prior to formulating a clear U.S. policy toward these regions. The Bush administration's concern over the new Soviet moves in the Middle East could have been a reason for its putting economic pressure on Egypt.

3. The weapons situation in the Middle East: Washington has, more than once over the past few months, raised the question of the arms race in the Middle East, particularly in the field of chemical weapons and long-range missiles. We have already mentioned the U.S. campaign against Iraq and Saudi Arabia over their possession of long-range missiles. It is no exaggeration to say that one aim of the U.S. campaign against Egypt is to expose its weapons development program, particularly after the discovery of the attempt to smuggle high-technology equipment and sensitive information on missile warhead and range development last June. The U.S. press, especially THE WASHINGTON POST, has raised the question of Egypt's participation with Iraq and Argentina in developing a long-range missile capable of carrying nuclear or chemical warheads with a range of 800 km. Earlier, the United States said that it would send some U.S. officials to the Middle East to look into this matter and the threat of a missile race in the region.

Washington completely ignores Israel's possession and manufacture of nuclear and chemical weapons, but does not hesitate to make all kinds of accusations against Arab states trying to develop their military resources and capabilities. There can be no doubt, therefore, that one aim of the recent pressures on Egypt is to prevent Egypt from modernizing its military arsenal.

In view of these pressures, a question arises concerning the future prospects and nature of future U.S.-Egyptian relations. It would be an exaggeration to state with certainty that these relations will enjoy the same degree of strength and smoothness as in the past. There will most probably be difficult periods that will require elimination of mutual suspicions, particularly after the recent accusations. It would also be an exaggeration to say that U.S.-Egyptian relations are on the verge of collapse or that Washington will pursue its campaign against Egypt indefinitely. The U.S. Government still really needs the cooperation of the Egyptian Government on many issues. Egyptian diplomacy can resolve this dilemma created by Washington by means of the same three factors, namely, a strong pan-Arab role, relations with the Soviets, and modernization of its military arsenal. This will also be an opportunity for self-reliance and confirmation of the fact that you cannot live on foreign aid forever.

Columnist Discusses 'Rumors' About U.S. Ties
JN2303195589 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic
22 Mar 89 p 3

["Words" column by Mahmud 'Abd-al-Mun'im Murad]

[Text] President Mubarak's statements about his upcoming U.S. visit were timely in that they have dissipated recent rumors about our ties with Washington.

The rumors were prompted by a U.S. decision to freeze \$230 million dollars in American aid for 2 consecutive years. It turned out, however, that the sum had been frozen several months back. On top of that, reports appeared in some American newspapers about Egypt building a chemical weapons factory. The reports proved to be a lie; its publication was timed to coincide with President Mubarak's attendance at a conference in Europe on atmospheric pollution. It was obvious that the president was taken aback by the rumor, which he said was spread in order to create confusion.

Many had assumed that the rumor was initiated by the United States, specifically officials of the Bush administration, despite the fact that the American press is not run by the government but privately owned, and that it is the Zionist movement that wields the greatest influence over the newspapers.

Ironically, our opposition newspapers have, regrettably, blown these rumours out of all proportion and gloated over them. It is incomprehensible that there should be gloating, even assuming the validity of the rumors. Typically, international relations have their ups and downs, given that interests and policies fluctuate. There was no apparent reason why the American Administration should want to pressure or hurt Egypt politically or economically. Yesterday's statements have served to dispel the rumors which were groundless anyway. Such rumors just do not add up: Egypt advocates regional and world peace and a removal of chemical and nuclear weapons from the region; Egypt has always declared that it wants to maintain balanced, amicable relations with all countries. Besides, we have not given cause to Israel, which may have a hand in souring our relations with Washington, to prejudice this relationship. Before long, the relations between the two countries may achieve such tranquility as they have not experienced before. May God grant us success.

Writer Accuses Israel of Using Egyptian Jews as Subversives

45040197A Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 3 Jan 89 p 6

[Article by Rifat Sayyid Ahmad: "Israel's Role in Employing Egyptian Jews To Penetrate Egyptian Minds"]

[Text] There is no doubt that the Israeli strategy undertaken in the wake of the Camp David Accords [CDA] can only be typified as a process of political, cultural and societal survey of Egypt. This time, however, it was done in Hebrew after it had been depicted in French by the 1978 French campaign and in English and American in the decades that preceded the 1979 CDA.

Today, we are face to face with an espionage operation, complete with roles and episodes, one leading to the other. From suspect American institutions, such as the Ford Foundation, the Rand Corporation and others, to the Embassy of Israel and the Israeli Academic Center in

Cairo—whose role we have detailed in a book due to be published in a few days by Dar Sina' Publishing House—to tireless attempts by the Israeli Mosad agencies to employ the Jewish presence in Egypt to penetrate the Egyptian mind following Camp David. Given the small number of scientific studies in this area of knowledge, the need to shed some light on this matter takes on great significance.

After Israeli strategy succeeded in neutralizing the most important Arab powers that have been opposing it militarily and politically, and ever since the president of this power, Egypt, visited Israel in November 1977, it has embarked on a new phase of its logic of attracting Arab Jews living outside Israel who, along with the Eastern Jews, comprise what Israel calls Sephardim. This logic relied on two main agencies, the World Zionist organization—the Histadrut—and the World Jewish Conference. This is in addition to Western propaganda and media agencies which are controlled and, indeed, owned mostly by Jewish powers. This logic called for the exertion of intense media pressure to promote allegations of bad living and political conditions of Arab Jews as a form of Arab retaliation against the Egyptian president's visit to Israel. In propagating such allegations, Israel was aided by a general escalation of the conflict, which reached its climax with the Israeli attack on the Iraqi reactor in July 1981, and the invasion and blockade of Beirut in 1982. Israel undertook all these actions secure in the knowledge that its most powerful neighbor, Egypt, would not point its guns at it. It was natural that allegations of oppression and torture of Arab Jews should fall on attentive ears and lead to endeavors by international organizations to facilitate the emigration of these Jews to Israel, aided by certain anti-Jewish actions undertaken by some Arab citizens in North Africa, where Arab Jewish presence is manifest.

Such media pressure and ideological orientation suppressed the truth about the good and natural conditions under which the Arab Jews are living, even in those countries that are close to the center of conflict, Syria or Lebanon to wit. Israeli strategy has been successful in its efforts to be a force attracting Arab Jews throughout the past 10 years, 1977 to 1987. This is the important outcome of the experience gained in those years. This same outcome comprises the springboard for justifying the need to review the way we deal with this issue on the Arab level, a way which today is the subject of the following critical review:

First, emotional positions and dealings based on reactions to the conduct of a state alien to the fabric of Arab civilization, of which the Arab Jews were an integral part up until 1977.

Second, the inability to employ Arab Jewish presence in the service of the conflict and ignoring this presence, thus making it easy for Israeli strategy to attract the Jews via sophisticated techniques made possible by the conflict's post-1977 circumstances.

And third, failure to take advantage of the forbearance and flexibility of the collective Arab conscience in its historic coexistence with the Arab Jews and allowing certain extraneous individual positions to tint this conscience with dark colors which Israel has successfully reemployed in its favor in accordance with a long-term design aimed at getting all Arab Jews out of the Arab region.

In light of these general flaws in the way the Arabs are currently dealing with Arab Jews, it is important to study and revisualize the ways and means of dealing with the Arab Jewish presence in the post-1977 era, particularly since the Israeli plan to control the Arab region henceforth has been able at all times to enhance the elements of its strength, thereby attaining a level of independence and power in its relations with others, the United States to be exact. We must draw attention to this plan's success in assimilating widely diversified and ubiquitous Zionist groups and to employ them in the service of the general plan in one way or another. In other words, the issue of dual loyalty of most Jews in our time has become widely known, but as Mr 'Adil Husayn said in this book about normalization, the widespread concept is imprecise. What he had in mind is the dual loyalty of the Zionist individual and the truth is that we are facing a special echelon that includes most Jews in every country, every Arab country to be exact. This secondary echelon may be described as having dual loyalty and may at a certain moment seek to steer the patriotic echelon living on its land toward the international Zionist interest with, Israel at its heart.

Given all these facts about the general flaw in the way we deal with the so-called Arab Jewish presence and the value the Israeli plan places on this presence and its function, we are required to examine one Arab model for dealing with the Arab Jews, a model of special characteristics and extreme political importance, because the most important transformations in the conflict that have occurred from 1977 to the present have been on its land. This model of Arab dealing allows us to peer at some of the basic features of the way we handle the Arab Jewish presence. By "this model" we mean Egypt's experience with Egyptian Jews in the era of normalization of creating an Egyptian economic market subordinate to the Israeli one. Since the early years of Egyptian-Israeli relations, the American administration, through AID [Agency for International Development], has been helping to overcome obstacles, particularly those pertaining to Egyptian apprehensions which, according to a (Browton)-Brookings report, can be dispelled via joint projects in which wealthy Egyptian Jews can play a role. This is in addition to weaving a wide network of contacts and relations with diverse influential social groups, which is what has actually happened in rapid succession. Famous personalities have played an effective role in completing the economic penetration network, including Kamil al-Kafrawi, 'Isamat al-Sadat, Muhsin al-Tunisi, Salah Nabhan, the general representative of Israeli companies in Egypt, 'Uthman Ahmad 'Uthman, agricultural engineers

Muhammad 'Abd-al-Wahhab and Muhammad Hatim Mahmud al-Bikl, irrigation engineers Hasan Majid and Mustafa Majdi and other personalities that helped some of the world-famous Jewish businessmen, such as Nasim Ja'un, to control the Egyptian market.

Following the 1977 Jerusalem visit, Egypt adopted a new policy relatively different from the historic way Egyptian society used to deal with its Jewish community. This policy was marked by the many economic and business privileges and facilities outside the nationally planned economy that were granted and which later led to disasters that have had a great impact on the economic and societal structure of the country as a whole, on the one hand, and have harmed the historic relations among elements of the Egyptian nation (Muslims and Christians), on the other hand.

Historically, Egyptian Jews have always been an effective element within, rather than outside, the societal fabric. The official Egyptian political community has guaranteed them extensive religious, economic, and educational rights and obligations, notwithstanding the various forms of deviation from this historic rule by some Egyptian Jews and Egyptianized foreigners during the occupation. Suffice it to know that, historically, the Jews have had temples in Egypt dating back to ancient history, 1,000 years after Moses departed from Egypt to be precise, the first of which was in Abu-Aswan Island. In the wake of their division into the Jews of Israel and the Jews of Judah and of Assyrian persecution of them, according to primary documents found a few years ago, the Egyptian people in the Elephantine Island in Aswan sheltered and embraced the Jews, interfering with them only when they transgressed the conventions of the Egyptian nation.

History books also say that, as of 1895, the Jews began building their private schools, starting with one in Cairo which, by 1925, had branched out into 20 other schools throughout Egypt. These schools were not subjected to any kind of political or cultural pressures, even though their curriculum was purely European; the official language of instruction was French, and English was a required subject. Therefore, graduates of these schools did not know the Arabic language well, while their knowledge of the French language and culture was equal to any French citizen of similar education. The Jews also had their own magazines and newspapers, which were not subject to confiscation, control or censorship. Some examples were the Jewish AL-NAHDAH magazine, established in 1917; the magazine, ZIONISM, which survived for 5 years under the direction of Leon Castro, a Jew well known to modern Egyptian history, and Jack Musiri who came after him; the magazine, ISRAEL FOR THE SONS OF JUDAISM; and AL-FAJR magazine which was published in the French language and enjoyed the widest circulation of any Jewish magazine from the time it was established in 1924. The Egyptian political community did not inflict direct harm on the Jews because of their activities except when they overstepped

the bounds of the community's general national fabric in a way that harmed greater national causes, such as independence and, later on, the Palestinian cause.

As a hard and fast rule, a correlation existed between the rate of emigration among Egyptian as well as Arab Jews to Israel and the dates of armed clashes with Israel. Ever since Herzl tried to discuss with the then-Egyptian authorities, Jewish settlement in Palestine during his 1904 visit to Egypt, where he was received by Jewish capitalist families, Egyptian Jews have yearned for their temples and religious symbols in general. Hence their exodus in 1948, 1956, 1967 and, most recently, 1973. This important piece of evidence is reflected by the drop in the size of the Jewish community which, by 1900, had dropped to about 2,000 Jews, most of whom were elderly or had diverse economic interests. These people, the minority, and the most dangerous and the most important to this study, often carry Israeli citizenship in addition to their old Egyptian citizenship. Most of them left Egypt during the wars and returned after the 1977 Jerusalem visit.

In the wake of this visit, and after Egypt had entered the ring of settling the conflict in accordance with the Israeli concept of peace, the methods of dealing with Egyptian Jews entered a relatively new phase marked by a set of features that can be used to measure the deficiencies that afflicted the historic way of dealing with the Jews owing to factors alien to the fabric of civilization of the two concerned parties.

First Feature

Exploitation by a number of great Egyptian Jewish capitalists of the state of peace between the Egyptian and the Israeli governments and the concomitant consumer economic open door policy.

This means that the general climate created by the Jerusalem visit contributed to the overindulgence of some capitalist Egyptian Jews, prompting them to embark upon a systematic economic invasion of the Egyptian market and, consequently, Egyptian society via a group of Egyptian capitalists (Christians and Muslims) who constituted a coordinated network. This network succeeded in killing many things, the most important of which by far being the way Egyptian Jews were being treated, a way that faltered and teetered in tragic ways, thus creating anti-Jewish sentiments among broad segments of the Egyptian national group—that anything Jewish is by necessity Zionist, coveting hegemony and economic control over the country's destinies and, therefore, must be opposed by force.

Second Feature

It is represented by a number of Egyptian Jews who also returned after the Jerusalem visit and the 1979 CDA and who took advantage of trade and espionage opportunities to sell some old Jewish temples, such as the Levi

Shalom Temple in al-Zahir and the Jewish cemetery in al-Ma'adim, in addition to temples found in the Darasah Quarter and Army Square in the heart of Cairo. This writer a while ago uncovered some aspects of this crime, but none of the officials did anything about it. Among the famous Jewish personalities who are selling these historic temples in preparation for their destruction and conversion into stores are Jewish-Egyptian citizens Yusuf Dana and Murad Zaki and Jews working in the Israeli mission. This trade ring is rounded out by the involvement of a number of Egyptian Jews in the drug trade, the most notorious case being that of Yusuf Tahhan in the fall of 1985. Regarding espionage, in addition to frequent and well-known accounts about Egyptian intelligence agencies arresting some Jews prior to the 1977 Jerusalem visit, there were similar espionage operations in which some Egyptian Jews played a prominent role after the Israeli embassy and the Mosad, who were moving about freely in Cairo, succeeded in recruiting them to betray the country that gave them shelter. One example of such operations is the massive Jewish spy network Egyptian security agencies uncovered on 1 August 1985. This network included an Egyptian national working at the Israeli embassy, the Israeli Academic Center, and some American diplomats in Cairo, in addition to a number of Egyptian Jews who had close contacts with the Israeli embassy in Cairo. Under massive American-Israeli pressures, the names of the members of this network were not revealed. Rather, after leaking sensitive political and military secrets, these members were expelled from Egypt. A lesson derived from the second feature is that the alleged state of peace between Egypt and Israel has not put a stop to the cheap exploitation of the sacrosanct and historic symbols that belong to the Egyptian national community, with its three elements: the Jews, the Christians and the Muslims. The drug trade has not been halted but has been boosted and the state of peace has not put a stop to political and military espionage, but has rather heightened it. Most dangerous of all, however, is the involvement of a number of Egyptian Jews or those who used to be Egyptians before emigrating to Israel and returned with the winds of peace in these new types of crimes that cast their heavy shadows on the way Egyptian Jews are treated and constitute one of the key flaws in this perverted program. This is what we presented in detail in our book, "Egypt's Portrayal in Hebrew," which will be published in a few days by the Dar Sina' Publishing House.

Third Feature

The employment of the Egyptian Jewish presence, young elements to be precise, as a cover for a systematic penetration and invasion of the Egyptian mind and Egyptian universities and scientific organizations through their joint field studies. These were conducted when some of their newspapers visited Egypt, a process considered a long-term prelude to active economic invasion. The Israeli Academic Center, under the chairmanship of Professors Shimon Shamir, Gabriel (Warpoj) and

(Shirwa Vadia), has played an important role in this scientific espionage operation. The Israeli Mosad has also played an important role in reaching Jewish families throughout Egypt under the pretext of looking after their interests and securing their contacts with the land of Israel. These in general are some of the features of the flaw that has befallen the quasi-established historic way of dealing with Egyptian Jews, a compounded flaw in which several elements, including the general political, economic and psychological climate that prevailed after the Jerusalem visit, played a part. Some sought to isolate the Jews with the help of the Israeli Mosad with a view to using them to further their strategy of economic and ideological penetration. The Egyptian Jews themselves have contributed to this flaw as well, spurred by fear and mistrust and by the desire to use the opportunity to engage in the systematic pilfering of the country that has sheltered them since time immemorial.

Opposition Columnist Assesses Prospects for Peace Conference

45040196B Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 3 Jan 89 p 5

[Article by 'Abd-al-Mun'im Salim Jabbarah: "International Conference...Facts and Hopes"]

[Text] So many things have been said at the official Arab level about an international conference that it appears as though this issue has moved from the conceptual stage at the Arab level, while at the same time intensifying contacts with and feeling out the other sides, particularly the American one, to the stage of agreeing on how the anticipated conference is to be perceived and how the future of the land occupied in the 1967 debacle is to be viewed.

Statements by some PLO officials suggest that an international conference is will convene in 1989 and that its convocation, in the wake of recent Palestinian developments and steps; the declaration of a Palestinian state; and the subsequent communiques from Geneva to Stockholm is a definite possibility and has gone beyond the stage of uncertainty after passing through a period of expectations and possibilities.

In Cairo, statements have been issued at the highest levels, underscoring the fact that an international conference for peace will be the most important event of 1989 both inside and outside the region, as Dr Usamah [al-Baz] stated during his meeting with foreign correspondents in Cairo that included several noteworthy issues:

- That a meeting between the president of Egypt and Yitzhaq Shamir, the prime minister of the usurper Israeli entity, must be fruitful and productive. Otherwise, it will lead to disappointments and a setback for the peace process.
- That the policy the Jews are adopting does not serve peace, even though this situation will change in coming months.

- That the Middle East will command a reasonable share of the new American administration's attention and that this administration will start off from a better position than Reagan did 8 years ago.
- That there is hope that the Bush administration will continue the dialogue with the PLO, promoting the moderate line and Palestinian expectations.
- That we are determined to avoid any setbacks, because we believe that we are faced with a historic opportunity and are determined to do everything that can to serve this opportunity in order to realize tangible progress in the coming year.

Official statements in certain Arab arenas give the impression, however, that Arab efforts to deal with the problem are based, among other things, on the following supports and underpinnings:

- International legitimacy, namely UN and international resolutions passed at the end of the forties.
- The Arab and Palestinian line of moderation that the Arab media is now emphasizing with respect to recent Palestinian resolutions that clearly and unconditionally recognized the American "no's": they recognized the alien Jewish entity; they renounced terrorism; and they gave in to Resolution 242, the resolution that deals with the Palestinian cause as one of refugees, but at the same time does not stress Jewish withdrawal from all territory occupied in the 1967 tragedy and stresses security for the usurping Jewish entity.
- Renunciation of the military option and observing peaceful and political means to urge the usurping Jewish entity, through Washington and international contacts, to negotiate within the framework of an international conference.

Indeed, official Arab parties which are now steering the peace process on the road to a peaceful and political solution persist in putting forth ideas that lead one to believe that they are not opposed to offering the Jewish people every security guarantee in order to prove good intentions. For when an Arab official says that Jewish determination to obtain all security guarantees can only impede the process, he undoubtedly means that there is no objection to acceding to Jewish security conditions, even in the presence of declared Arab renunciation of the military option under whatever name.

From our point of view, this declaration is the most serious step in the current and even the next stage, albeit the product of the current Arab fragmentation and weakness or the product of a policy conviction and peaceful solutions.

By looking at what has happened and is still happening away from the media hubbub and based on a universal vision, one can discern the facts that shed light on the danger spots and the direction in which things are going.

- It is widely known that the American attitude toward the alien Jewish entity is—based on specific constants,

lines, purposes, and aims represented in realizing American interests in the Arab and Islamic region—an attitude voiced by Truman when the usurper Jewish entity was established, that Israel was the cornerstone of American policy in the Middle East.

- It is also known, notwithstanding numerous attempts to beautify the American face in our area, how American policy is being conducted in support of the Jewish entity in our land at all the various levels through military, political, and economic backing, as well as all kinds of treaties and agreements that firmly establish its existence, bolster its security, impose its presence on us, and push it to realize its plan to attain the dream state from the Nile to the Euphrates. This is supposed to be followed, as a hope that has lived on since the time of the Prophet, by another phase of hegemony, the imposition of the Jewish tincture and the eradication of the Islamic identity.

It is wrong to think that Washington has ever refused, as a hard and fast rule, to enter into a dialogue with the PLO. Kissinger's deed in the mid-seventies did not mean that at all. It was aimed at rendering the dialogue with America an end and the ultimate issue and linking a dialogue with Washington to recognition of the Jewish entity as the rightful owner of the land, while renouncing terrorism, which has a special connotation to Washington. This is in addition to recognition of Resolution 242, which Britain formulated in such a way as to give the Jews everything and deny the Arabs everything.

From the mid-seventies until today, Washington has not spared any effort in exerting pressure, coupled with various kinds of enticements and policies, to force the Arabs and the Palestinians into changing their ways and looking at the issue through a new looking glass that makes what happened in the sixties and seventies seem rosy in the eighties. Arab developments in the wake of the PNC [Palestine National Council] session in Algiers and the Geneva and post-Geneva declarations underscore the fact that changes occurred in our arena, to wit, acceding to American conditions that have not changed from Kissinger to Shultz and from Nixon to Bush.

It is also known that a change, as yet of unknown characteristics, has occurred in the course and policy of the alien Jewish entity. To say that a disagreement exists between the two Jewish parties—Labor and Likud—is untrue, for the broad lines on which policies are based, in addition to goals and intentions, are the same. Perhaps the recent formation of the Shamir-Perez government underscores the area of agreement, as does the Arabs' intention of having Shamir demonstrate his willingness to change the technique with a view to coming to the negotiating table within the framework of an international conference, whose dimensions the Arabs have failed to clearly outline at a time when international organizations have lost their power to implement resolutions, particularly those pertaining to our world and our causes, without American consent. America has

inherited our area of the world from British and French colonialism, and its policies reflect the emotions of an heir toward his possessions.

It is clear that the alien Jewish entity has not given up the military option. It is still brandishing its weapons and has gone forward with the enhancement and upgrading of its weaponry, moving from the conventional to the nuclear, satellite, and missile stage, and hinting about using nuclear weapons. If Washington has raised a din bordering on threats and intimidation, this din has been directed at the Arabs and Muslims in view of allegations that some of them are engaged in nuclear research aimed at making an atomic bomb. The Americans have been completely silent about and have overlooked the Jewish enemy's efforts to enhance its weapons, to upgrade its capabilities, and to issue its threats, helping it to obtain the necessary capabilities.

West Europe's stance on Arab and Muslim causes is governed by Western interests, as well as by the colonialist theory, and is basically based on sympathy for the Jews. What is striking is for Sweden to play this recent role whose features and mysteries have been revealed, ultimately leading to Palestinian accession to American conditions. Furthermore, Western capitals have declared that "Arafat has acceded to all our demands and he has nothing else to offer. Therefore, now we have to see what we can do."

In the Kremlin, the magnitude of Soviet presence in the area, and consequently the dimension of its role, are known. It is a presence circumscribed by an American-Soviet agreement on Vietnam reached through the special Geneva accords in the mid-seventies, in addition to the internal and external circumstances facing Gorbachev today, leaving their imprints on Moscow's policy.

The world is now living in an era of power and exploitation in the service of policies aimed at realizing interests even at the expense of others, an era in which the super colonialist powers stick their tongues out at international organizations and their resolutions. Still, there exists a vision of the circumstances under which an international conference for the Palestinian cause may be held, making it easy to visualize the kind of potentials such a conference may have or may lack and the results that it may achieve under and media banners.

But the Palestinian uprising and Arab renunciation of the military option still have a great impact on steering matters inside and outside the region and on shaping these conditions now and in the future.

Writer Sees Asian Model as Alternative to Dependence on West

45040196A Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 3 Jan 89 p 5

[Article by 'Adil Husayn: "This Government's Continuation in Power Is a Disaster!"]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] Our officials generally maintain that our problem with debts is part of one

shared by Asian, African, and Latin American countries. We reject such statements, as we refuse to describe the relationship between debtor and creditor countries as one between rich and poor, for such a description and such an analysis provides every poor country with an excuse to put its hand out only because it is poor or because its per capita income is low. This is an incorrect analysis, as evidenced by the fact that countries that are deepest in debt are not the poorest ones. We cite as an example Brazil, Mexico, Argentina, Israel, and Egypt, countries that have greater debts than other developing countries, notwithstanding the fact that they are considered to be relatively well off. In contrast, we would like to point out that South Korea has achieved rapid growth in its industry and exports, thereby bringing its debts totally under control by paying them off from its balance of payment surplus without having to beg. [passage omitted]

Going back to Egypt, we have said that a low-income level is no excuse for increased borrowing. Even if it were, we are not as poor as others are, and yet we have outborrowed them. Add to that the fact that, as of the mid-seventies, the Egyptian economy has had great foreign currency revenues (over one-third of Egypt's revenues are in dollars). This means that tight foreign currency excuses that have forced other countries to borrow in order to finance their food, intermediate goods, and capital goods would not have applied to us had we not misused our foreign currency proceeds and had our economic policy not been responsible for squandering the greater part of our foreign currency revenues on bringing in narcotics, smuggling wealth abroad, and importing luxury items while we felt rebuked and bereft, borrowing, borrowing, and borrowing some more. There is no power and no strength save in God.

After that, how can it be said that we speak in the name of debtor countries? Are they going to retain us to defend this case because of our demonstrated skill in dealing with matters of growth and economic management and in containing the scourge of debt? [passage omitted]

I believe this decline in real wages has been offset in recent years by the returns investment companies used to offer. The minor disaster these poor people are now facing is the withholding of returns that used to close the gap between shrinking wages and rising prices. The major disaster is that the principal itself is threatened with deterioration and erosion.

This gloomy picture can only be changed by bringing into power and decision making a team other than the one known as the National [Democratic] Party, which has brought us to the kind of ruination we have already described. Economically and otherwise, the ruling crew has got to be replaced if we are to raise any kind of hope for reform.

Last week we wrote about the importance of an Egyptian initiative on the Asian axis and were happy to learn that everyone else was writing in the same vein. Mr Ibrahim

Nafi' has informed us that in the next few months President Mubarak will visit some Far Eastern nations, starting with Japan, China, India and some other countries. We are delighted with these developments, but by calling for an initiative on the Asian axis, we intended to effect a change in civilizational and political concepts rather than a mere change in the geographic path or the line of flight.

The importance of turning to the East lies primarily in our educated people and our politicians discovering that God's country is vast and much larger than the role the West is playing. Asian experiences teach us that the Western experience in America, in the Soviet Union, and in between is not the only model for economic progress. This does not mean, of course, that we should do what India and China are doing or what Japan did before them. What we mean to say is that if South and East Asian countries can advance to the 21st century via a special road, we in the Arab Islamic region can also advance via our special jurisprudence within the sphere of our special circumstances.

We ask that the Asian experience be dealt with in a mentality other than the lethargic attitude that has compelled our ruling elite to be subservient to the West and enraptured by it.

We must study the Asian experience and must benefit from their accomplishments, but in an independent, critical Islamic mentality. Unfortunately, however, what many writers wrote last week had nothing to do with what we were calling for. We hope that interest in Asia and Japan, in particular, will not turn into a mere search for another source for us to obtain loans and import machinery.

Columnist Calls UK Stand on IMF Ties 'Routine'
JN1603212389 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic
15 Mar 89 p 3

[“Words” column by Mahmud ‘Abd-al-Mun’im Murad]

[Text] Britain's position on our demands from the IMF does not favor Egypt. It is not the first time that Mrs Thatcher has adopted such a stance. She has repeatedly said that the Egyptians will have to manage for themselves and that occasional, unconditional assistance to Egypt is uncalled for.

I fail to see the rationale behind this routine British stand, which probably explains why President Mubarak did not include Britain on the itinerary of his current European tour. Surprisingly, and in contrast to the United Kingdom, other European nations have taken a supportive, encouraging, and charitable stand. The Federal Republic of Germany, France, and Italy, among other EC nations, try to accommodate us. They extend direct aid or try to prevail upon the IMF and the World Bank to be receptive to our demands.

I am not aware of the exact motives behind the British position. Is it political or more to do with the principle that debtor nations must first help themselves before seeking foreign assistance? Britain is said to be in economic straits and beset by unemployment. This is advanced by some as the reason why Britain is reluctant to extend assistance, since its people have more entitlement to it than foreign nations. We have no quarrel with this argument. However, the countries that have been forthcoming toward us could not have been prompted by mere sentiments without regard to their best interests. These must reckon that their vital interests are served by good relations with the Arab world, and more particularly, with Egypt. They have increased their economic and trade ties with us and carried out joint, mutually beneficial, ventures in the region. Undoubtedly, there is immense potential in the Arab world for Europe to exploit. The Arab world has oil and raw materials and is a huge market for European products.

In any case, each country is better placed to judge its own interests and make its own decisions. We have no right to feel angered by the English; we must, though, thank all those who have offered us assistance. But we must first help ourselves, regardless of the inconvenience involved.

ISRAEL

Marked Decrease in Uprising-Related Incidents Noted 44000461

[Editorial Report] Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew on 22 February 1989 publishes a 300-word report on page 13 in which the head of the central command, Brigadier General ‘Amram Mitzna’, responds to a question carried on Israeli Defense Forces Radio concerning the course of the intifadah (uprising). He says: “There is a definite moderation in the quantity and quality of uprising-related incidents. Shekhem [Nabulus] is a successful example of the decline in incidents. Now we need to decrease the number of reserve troops there in order to carry on operations. I believe we will need to decrease them even further.”

Links Between Nazareth-Based Newspaper and PFLP Denied 44000407 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 10 Mar 89 p 6

[Text] The last edition of the newspaper AL-RAYAH (THE FLAG), founded in 1987 in Nazareth, appeared yesterday, its license being revoked by order of the district commissioner of the northern district. In a press conference at Bet Agron in Jerusalem, newspaper editor Raja' Aghbariyah denied the charge on which the district commissioner relied; namely, that the newspaper was in some way linked to the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

He also denounced the excuse given for the order to close the newspaper, which was based on "secret information" against it.

The newspaper editorial board, identified with the "Sons of the Village" movement, decided not to take steps against the district commissioner by turning to the high court of justice in this affair since the court would be unable to take any practical judicial action.

The spokesmen also complained that since the law makes it possible to close newspapers with an administrative order, the Israeli courts had already expressed their opinion which, though undemocratic, they were obliged to judge by, as long as the opinion remained unchanged.

Aghbaryah maintains that the Sons of the Village movement is operating within the law despite the plots of the authorities to block them. In the recent municipal elections the movement succeeded in electing seven local officials of the twelve who declared their candidacy.

In the absence of an established and fixed mouthpiece with the closing of AL-RAYAH, its editor said that the movement will publish one-time newspaper editions in the future which do not require special permission; they will be published occasionally.

OMAN

Consultations With Moscow on Oil Prices Reported

44000360 Doha AL-RAYAH in Arabic 17 Jan 89 p 4

[Text] The minister of petroleum and minerals in the Sultanate of Oman, Sa'id al-Shanfari, began discussions yesterday with Soviet officials on ways to strengthen the stability of oil prices on the international market.

The Omani minister had stated earlier to the Abu Dhabi daily AL-ITTIHAD that he is not carrying any proposal to the Soviet Union. He stressed, however, that the consultations and cooperation that are taking place are in the interest of all oil producing states, including the Soviet Union.

The Omani minister said that he will also discuss Omani-Soviet relations during his visit. He said he is carrying a letter from His Majesty Sultan Qabus Ibn Sa'id, the sultan of Oman, to the Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in connection with consultation and cooperation in the oil field.

The minister indicated that contacts were ongoing and being intensified between the two countries to develop Omani-Soviet cooperation in the commercial, economic, and oil fields. In this regard he was expecting the arrival in Muscat of a high level Soviet delegation to negotiate with concerned Omani authorities on strengthening relations in these fields.

It is noteworthy that the visit of Sa'id Ibn-Ahmad al-Shanfari to Moscow, which will last 2 days, is the first by an Omani minister to the Soviet Union since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries in 1986.

It had been announced in Muscat that this visit came at the request of the GCC [Gulf Cooperation Council] within the framework of conducting a dialogue among all the oil producers to secure support outside of OPEC for the GCC's efforts aimed at stabilizing oil prices on the world market.

Increase in Value of Re-Exports Observed

44000236 Muscat AL-WATAN in Arabic 3 Dec 88 p 4

[Text] Re-exported commodities registered a noticeable increase in value for the second quarter of 1988, compared with the corresponding period in 1987.

Statistics of the development council indicated that the total value of the re-exported commodities for the second quarter of 1988 totaled 22,904,100 Omani riyals [OR], whereas the value of commodities of the same type for the corresponding period of 1987 was OR 20,644,000.

Therefore, it is clear that re-exported commodities greatly increased in the second quarter of 1988, by an amount of OR 2,260,100. This is equivalent to a rate of increase of more than 10 percent.

QATAR

Financing for Phase Two of North Field Discussed

44000282 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 20 Jan 89 p 43

[Text] The Government of Qatar has charged nine international banks with the task of arranging a loan of 400 million dollars to finance phase two of the North Field development project which is considered the largest nonassociated natural gasfield in the world.

The National Westminster Bank of Britain was charged with marketing the loan provided that the nine banks participating in the loan are given equal shares. The maturity of the loan was set at 3 years, the Government of Qatar guaranteed it, and the interest was set at 22.5 points above the current rate in London banks.

The proven reserves of gas in the North Field are calculated to be 150 million cubic feet and the estimated reserves 380 million cubic feet. The Government of Qatar had decided in 1987 on the implementation of the project.

SAUDI ARABIA

Official Source Denies Infiltration of Intelligence Agency

44040263 Doha AL-RAYAH in Arabic 16 Jan 89 p 1

[Text] An official Saudi source denied a news story concerning the occurrence of a comprehensive change in the Saudi intelligence agency, asserting that the story has absolutely no basis in fact.

In a statement made to the Saudi news service published the night before last, the source challenged the correctness of the information that some of the British newspapers are going to great lengths to obtain from unreliable sources.

Radio London had reported the day before yesterday, on Saturday, a story published in the British paper THE INDEPENDENT, concerning a comprehensive change in the Saudi intelligence agency following its infiltration by a new group of terrorist sympathizers.

SUDAN

Superpowers, Israeli Reportedly Vie for Intervention Roles

45040213b London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic
10 Feb 89 p 33

[Article by 'Afaf Zayn]

[Text] At the beginning of his era [Prime Minister] al-Sadiq al-Mahdi turned down a generous offer by the PLO to enable Khartoum to suppress Colonel John Garang's mutiny. The reason for al-Mahdi's rejection was a deep-seated fear that Arab assistance, from whatever source, might lead to Arabizing the crisis in Sudan, and in turn "internationalizing" it, thus increasing the number of those involved and, consequently, losing opportunities for solutions.

In Khartoum, the crisis of participation in government has not yet been resolved and the recent peace agreement has not been blessed by all the partners. The dispute over the al-Mirghani/Garang project has developed into a thorny problem that has divided the ranks, pushed the demonstrators to take to the streets once again, and led to the armed forces uncovering yet another coup attempt. Early last week, 'Umar Nur al-Dayim, a minister in the outgoing government, stated that "Sudan is holding intensive contacts with Washington and Moscow in order to end the war in the south." This statement was followed by reports about the reemergence of the Israeli factor, when Tel Aviv dispatched its chief of staff to meet with John Garang in order to coordinate with him in return for his making a definite pledge to establish distinguished relations with Israel, who would supply him with arms when he takes power in Khartoum. At the same time, 'Uthman Abu-Bakr, ELF [Eritrean Liberation Front]-Unified Organization spokesman, said

that Avraham Tamir, Director General of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, recently visited Addis Ababa—preceded by a visit by senior military personnel—in order to conclude a deal between Ethiopia and Tel Aviv that would commit the former to facilitating the emigration of the rest of the Falasha Jews and to granting Tel Aviv certain facilities on the Red Sea in return for Israel pledging to provide modern weapons and economic and military experts.

These successive developments threaten the national security of both Sudan and Egypt. Regardless of whether reports about the Israeli moves are true or not, the division of responsibilities between Moscow, Washington, and to a certain extent, the EC gives Israel and others sufficient reason to play their African cards against Egypt. Added to this is the fact that Sudan's strategic security is vital for Egypt's security.

It was reported in Washington last weekend that Dr Mansur Khalid, delegated by John Garang, "held a series of meetings with the U.S. Administration that showed readiness to mediate between Khartoum and the SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army], following an understanding reached with Moscow on ending regional conflicts in East Africa." But President Reagan's administration, at the beginning of al-Mahdi's rule, had already made such an offer during al-Mahdi's recent visit to Washington and his meeting with then Vice President George Bush. The present American president has a close knowledge of the Sudanese crisis, since he visited Sudan during the 1984 famine year, when he met with all the political leaders, foremost among whom was al-Sadiq al-Mahdi. Al-Mahdi had then proposed the formation of a transitional government that would hold legislative elections to pave the way for a secular democratic regime that would bring about peace between northern Sudan and southern Sudan. Later Sudan witnessed successive developments that were along the lines proposed by al-Mahdi, except that the Islamic Front, which George Bush advised former president Numayri to exclude from government—but which al-Mahdi included in his government—rejected the peace agreement between Garang and al-Mirghani, and the Democratic Unionist Party joined the opposition.

When al-Mahdi met George Bush in Washington, the U.S. Administration was closely examining the gist of the pretexts given by Khartoum for refraining from participating in the Bright Star maneuvers and procrastinating over putting its relations with Cairo in order. At the same time, Washington expressed concern over Sudan's reluctance to accept peace formulas that would lay the ground for a regime under which wealth and political decision making would be shared with the south. Last year the U.S. Administration halted wheat shipments to Sudan offered on easy terms, including flexibility in payment. Later it announced that it would send aid directly to southern Sudan, which is suffering from war and famine. During the recent flood catastrophe, the U.S. aid was meager in comparison with the

rapid response it demonstrated to Sudan's need during the 1984-1985 famine. Later it was announced that the resumption of U.S. aid to Sudan depends on the latter reaching a solution that would put an end to the war in the South.

Mediation in the problem of the south proposed by Washington falls within the context of U.S. dealings with the horn of Africa on the basis of its distinguished relations with its ally, Egypt. The same thing goes for Moscow, which has similar relations with Ethiopia. The U.S.-Soviet understanding to end conflicts in the horn of Africa falls within the context of Moscow's and Washington's strategic interests and is not in conflict with the developed relations between Addis Ababa and Cairo, who tried their best to end the crisis in the south. It can be said that the al-Mirghani/Garang agreement was the result of this understanding between Egypt and Ethiopia.

The new U.S. initiative is not in conflict with Cairo's dealing with the Sudanese crisis, particularly during Ethiopian Prime Minister Fikre-Selassie's recent visit to Cairo via Khartoum. The U.S. efforts complement the efforts being made by Cairo and Addis Ababa. The U.S. move is equally understood in Moscow. The proposed solution put forward by Ethiopia to end its war with the Eritreans is found on political and administrative basis similar to what John Garang is demanding, with the exception that, unlike the ELF, Garang does not advocate secession.

When Moscow previously supported the soldiers' mutiny, it aimed at deterring Sudan from pursuing a hostile policy toward its ally, Ethiopia. The establishment of normal relations between Khartoum and Addis Ababa is one of Moscow's objectives and is compatible with what Washington wants in Sudan with regard to Egypt. Perhaps the objective of spreading news about the return of the Israeli factor is to prompt Sudan to resolve the matter of consolidating distinguished relations with Cairo. The return of the Israeli factor to the problem is aimed at Cairo and not at Sudan. Tel Aviv is dealing with Sudan within a comprehensive strategy according to which it is dealing with the horn of Africa. What it is doing now is simply a precautionary step that enables it to lay securely in wait for Cairo.

Ba'th Leader Denies Relations With Arab States Worsening

45040220a *London AL-DUSTUR in Arabic*
12 Feb 89 p 4

[Text] Badr-al-Din Mudathar, secretary of the Regional Command of the Socialist Arab Ba'th Party in Sudan, made a statement to the press regarding Statements by certain quarters in the Sudanese government aimed at harming Sudan's relations with its Arab brothers and isolating it from its Arab environment. He said, "Exchanging views with our Arab brothers over our Sudanese nationalist issues and concerns and their offering advice to us, just as exchanging views with them and

offering advice to them regarding their concerns and problems, is not in any way a form of intervention in each other's internal affairs. Those who view this as such are short-sighted government quarters that are harming our relations with our brothers and paving the way for the conspiracy against Sudan to succeed. How do we understand from their concern for unity with a certain Arab country on one hand, and their regarding advice by some other brothers as interference in our internal affairs? They claim to be nationalists when their partisan and personal interests suit their nationalists claims, but are against nationalism when they find no interest in it."

Badr-al-Din Mudathar added, "In this regard, our stand stems from our belief that Arab national security is unity, and that what threatens an Arab country affects the rest of the [Arab] nation and its countries. Therefore, a move by the nation to thwart an imminent or potential danger to one of the countries aims at sparring the nation bloodshed in the future, as has happened in Lebanon and as was intended to happen at the onset of the Iranian aggression against Iraq, had Iraq not saved the nation from the evil schemes to dismember it and to violate its sovereignty on its eastern borders when it defeated aggression and thwarted Khomeini's designs and charlatanism that falsely don the garb of Islam.

Warning against conspiracy, he pointed to the conspiratorial plan against the Arab nation which, having targeted Iraq and Lebanon for bloodshed, is aimed at threatening Sudan and plunging it in the fires of disruptions and wars and turning it into an arena of human and material exhaustion affecting both Sudan and the other Arab countries. It is also aimed at harming the Arab-African solidarity relations through continuing the war and expanding it geographically.

Report Lists Causes of Weakness in Constituent Assembly

45040220b *London AL-DUSTUR in Arabic*
12 Feb 89 pp 18,19

[Article by Muhammad 'Atiq in Khartoum]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The Constituent Assembly issued decision number 10 on 14 December 1988, according to which it selected a committee from among its members to study the phenomenon of absenteeism in its meetings and to submit specific recommendations to deal with it. The Assembly Speaker wanted the committee to include secretaries of the assembly's party parliamentary committees in order to benefit from their close knowledge of members of their parliamentary body and their familiarity with their problems. The committee chairmanship has been entrusted to Husayn 'Abd-al-Qadir, the then assembly deputy speaker (from the Democratic Unionist Party).

On 20 January 1989, the committee submitted a comprehensive report on its work and recommendations to the Constituent Assembly, but the Assembly so far has

not discussed the report. It is believed that it will not subject it to debate, in view of the seriousness of its contents.

AL-DUSTUR has been able to obtain the report in question, which is divided into three parts.

The first contains the background of the committee's formation and the steps it has taken.

The second deals with the causes of the problem.

The third consists of the committee's recommendations and its proposals to solve the problem of absenteeism.

In this quick reading of the pages of this serious document, we will review the most important causes of the problem as stated in the second part of the report, juxtaposed with the recommended solutions as contained in the report's third section.

At the beginning of the report, the committee notes the absence of Huraykah 'Izz-al-Din (secretary of the al-Ummah party parliamentary body and the party representative in the committee) from its first two meetings without notification or excuse. The committee wrote to the al-Ummah Party secretariat begging it to appoint a replacement for Huraykah if he was unable to attend, in view of the committee's desire to ensure that the al-Ummah party parliamentary body was represented. But as of the time the committee concluded its work, it received no response to its letter. A similar step was taken in the case of the [National] Islamic Front [NIF] when its representative, Muhammad Ahmad al-Fadl, who deputized Mirghani al-Mizmil, absented himself. Al-Mizmil represented the NIF in the committee meetings until their conclusion.

In order for the committee to be able to become familiarized with the problem from all its aspects, to gather more information, and to be acquainted with the views of the parties concerned with matters under the committee's jurisdictions, it summoned some of the staff of the assembly's general secretariat, the assembly speaker, the assembly president, and the minister of prime ministry affairs [title as published] in order to attend a special meeting to state their views. All of them responded to the invitation with the exception of the minister. The committee believed it was necessary to first hear the views of the minister of prime ministry affairs in order to learn about the role of the assembly and its members in relation to the government's work within the assembly and about the channels and means employed in playing such a role. For this reason, the committee, in accordance with clause 4 of article 29 of the assembly by-laws, approached the minister through the assembly president, inviting him to attend a committee meeting to be held on 7 January 1989. But as of 1400, when the meeting ended, the minister did not attend and sent no apology. In view of the committee's interest in the subject, it repeated its invitation to another meeting in the same manner, but the minister again failed to show up.

In the committee's opinion, according to its report, "the minister's action can be regarded as a living example of the manner in which some ministers deal with the meetings of the assembly and its committees, a manner that is one of the causes of the deficiency in the assembly's work procedure which this study intends to deal with."

The committee charged with studying the phenomenon of absenteeism listened to the views of those concerned and reviewed all the papers, documents, and memos relating to the subject. It has identified a number of reasons and factors for which four quarters are responsible. These are: the government, the presidency and secretariat of the Constituent Assembly, the assembly members, and the political parties represented in the assembly.

The reasons relating to the government:

a. Failure of ministers and minister members of the assembly to attend the assembly meetings and take part in work on a regular basis, thereby undermining the effectiveness of the assembly's oversight role.

b. Paucity and insignificance of government legislative work submitted to the assembly.

c. Failure of the prime minister to attend the assembly meetings regularly in order to answer questions not listed on the agenda, thereby weakening the link between the legislative and the executive committees.

d. Ministers refraining from arranging meetings with assembly members in order to discuss problems of their constituencies and their constituents. This is in addition to the ministers treating those members in a manner unbefitting their status as deputies of the nation and representatives of the masses.

e. Ministers procrastinating and avoiding answering questions and requests for data submitted by assembly members in accordance with the constitutional provisions and the assembly by-laws.

f. Failure to inform the assembly of orders and decisions establishing ministries.

g. Failure to benefit from state ministers (because of their present constitutional position) in standing in for the ministers and submitting government works to the assembly.

The committee has made specific recommendations to deal with these issues, the most important of which are:

1. The prime minister should fulfill his earlier pledge to personally attend [assembly meetings] once a week on a fixed day.

2. The government should refrain from issuing ad hoc orders except when necessary and in accordance with

provisions of article 1b of the transitional constitution, in order to avoid minimizing the assembly's legislative role.

3. The ministers should be bound to answering questions by members, requests for information, and other requests within a specific time so that subjects will not lose their importance with time.

4. The government should inform the assembly of all important decisions and organizational and administrative arrangements, especially those relating to the establishment of ministries and the definition of their powers.

Reasons relating to the assembly's presidency and secretariat:

Among the most important things contained in the committee's report in this section are the following:

1. Laxity in applying the by-laws' provisions regarding the accountability of absentee members and accepting their excuses without examining them and without referring the matter to the parliamentary committees in order to investigate certain cases.

2. Ambiguity of the assembly's oversight role of the regional departments, particularly regional governors and the commissioner of the national capital.

3. Failure of the assembly president to enter the assembly hall on time as fixed in the by-laws.

4. Delay in preparing the agenda and failure to announce it in good time.

5. Poor wording of instructions written on the assembly card, thus leading to disrespect by the executive departments.

In the third part of the report concerning recommendations, the committee lists nine articles relating to the assembly presidency and its secretariat. Briefly summed up, these call for early preparation of the agenda, for the assembly presidency to enter the hall at the time set in the by-law in all circumstances, for the application of the by-laws on penalties for absenteeism in accordance with accurate monitoring, and for the assembly president to submit to the committee of committee chairmen cases of recurrent absenteeism or those cases requiring termination of membership in order to make recommendations on them to the assembly. They also call for submitting urgent matters to the assembly without waiting for the minister concerned to attend. It would suffice to notify him before they are submitted, time permitting. The assembly presidency should, when exercising its prerogative of accepting urgent matters, make sure that these matters are really urgent and important. It should also speedily follow up procedures of passing the bill concerning immunities and privileges of members with

the aim of providing them with total protection during the performance of their parliamentary duties, etc.

Reasons Relating to the members themselves:

a. Preoccupation of members with their engagements and private businesses in commerce, agriculture, and the like at the expense of their parliamentary responsibilities.

b. Failure of members to benefit from the broad powers given to them in the by-laws to monitor the performance of the executive branch and to raise vital issues in assembly hall.

c. Wasting much time in front of the ministers' and executives' offices during the times scheduled for assembly meetings.

The committee says in its report: Since any steps for reform or for improving performance can succeed only if the members and those who represent the center of gravity in parliamentary practice respond to it, we recommend the following:

a. That members should realize their national responsibilities, sacred duties, and the heavy responsibilities they are shouldering by attending meetings regularly and by seriously and effectively participating in the work of the assembly and its committees.

b. That members should adhere to their constitutional and by-law rights in legislation, accountability, and monitoring performance of the executive branch, and should use powers vested in them to raise important issues of national character and to propose bills whenever necessary.

c. That members should review the by-laws and be adequately acquainted with the rules set for submitting questions, statements, proposals, and matters relating to deliberation and other parliamentary procedures.

d. That members should refrain from submitting absence applications except when necessary and in accordance with regulations.

The reasons relating to parties in the assembly:

1. Disinterest in trying to control attendance and performance of assembly members and inadequate coordination and cooperation with the assembly's machinery in this regard.

2. Failure to clarify to parliamentary committees and to consult them on many important issues and vital problems prior to submitting them to the assembly.

3. Collective boycotting of assembly meetings for long periods of time by some parliamentary committees.

The committee has found that political parties are also responsible for organizing the function of their parliamentary committees in the assembly. Therefore, it recommended in its report that deputies should be urged to maintain discipline through their parties and that those parties should improve their members' mental capabilities and develop methods of their parliamentary committees' participation in making important decisions relating to these parties' attitudes toward issues before the assembly or to parliamentary function in general.

This is a quick reading of some aspects of the parliamentary party committee, the aspects relating to the causes and recommendations, but not other aspects dealt with in the report.

Regardless of the extent of agreement or disagreement with details of the report, the boldness of the report and

the courage of those who prepared it is evident in many of its articles and must be recognized. Because the present state of affairs and the continuation of the situation—for causes and reasons that go far deeper than the report states—do not encourage the belief that the report will be debated inside or outside the assembly, we have made this quick review of those aspects, as far as the committee was able to reveal them, in order to point to the weak and dangerous spots in the present democratic situation in Sudan. The demand raised by the uprising forces that was initiated by the Socialist Arab Ba'th Party in August 1988, calling for dissolving the government and establishing a comprehensive national salvation government with specific targets, the last of which would be holding general elections in the country, did not come out of the blue. So let's read the article once again.

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